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ARAB TIMES

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NO. 7416 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1988 RABI UL THANI 18, 1409 AH 16 PAGES 150 FILLS

Blow to peace process: Kuwait

KUWAIT, Nov 27, (Agencies): Kuwait today regretted the US decision to bar entry to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat to the United States.

Kuwait described the US decision as a blow to Middle East peace process.

"The cabinet expresses its regret and astonishment at the American position and the negative effects it will have on the peace process," Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid Al Rashid, told reporters after a weekly cabinet meeting.

Suspicious bag found harmless

By Jadranka Porter

THE police yesterday temporarily cordoned off a section of Al Soor Street in Kuwait City until special investigators established that a bag found unattended in Al Anjari building was harmless, according to a Salhiya police station spokesman.

The incident took place at about 12.30 pm when the police was informed of a suspicious blue bag placed near the Cyprus Airways office in Al Anjari building. Investigators suspected that the bag could contain explosives, the spokesman said.

The police evacuated the Al Anjari building and the adjacent offices and cordoned off the section of Al Soor Street between the Sheraton Roundabout and the Ministry of Information.

When the investigators opened the bag they found in it clothes and newspapers, a witness said.

The Salhiya police station spokesman said that the bag belonged to one of the occupants of Al Anjari building who by mistake left the bag unattended.

Call to shift Palestine debate to Geneva

US denial of visa for Arafat denounced

AMMAN, Nov 27, (Agencies): The Arab world reacted bitterly today after the United States branded PLO leader Yasser Arafat a terrorist and refused him a visa to address the United Nations in New York.

Jordan and Egypt agreed to launch an Arab drive to transfer the General Assembly's annual Palestine debate to Geneva, while an Arafat aide said Washington had made a grave error.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Maguid postponed his departure for the Dec 1 debate and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz scrapped plans to attend.

In Tunis, Palestine Liberation Organisation spokesman Ahmed Abdul Rahman said the PLO would ask the United Nations to vote on the US decision.

Dangerous

"It is very dangerous for the very existence of the United Nations that its power of decision be taken over by the American State Department," he said.

Jordanian Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri described the US move as "unjustified and disappointing" and blamed it on pressure from the Israeli lobby in Washington.

"It is most regrettable to have this American decision come shortly after historic decisions were taken by the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers, decisions which the world saw as positive, moderate and constructive," Masri said.

Jordan's official news agency Petra said King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak agreed by telephone to promote an Arab campaign to

switch the venue for the UN debate on Palestine to Geneva.

King Hussein held two rounds of talks with the PLO chairman, on his second visit to Jordan in five weeks and his first since the PNC proclaimed an independent Palestinian state on Nov 15.

Arafat, who arrived in Jordan from Baghdad, had no public comment on US visa snub.

Strangle

Hussein said today the US was trying to strangle the voice of Palestinian moderation by denying a visa to Arafat.

"This decision is aimed at strangling the moderate, positive Palestinian voice, the voice of the peace and justice which all in the region desire," Petra quoted Hussein as saying.

The US State Department said it rejected Arafat's visa application because it had evidence that PLO elements had engaged in terrorism against Americans and others. Arafat condoned terrorism and was an accessory, it said.

"The US decision was the result of pro-Israel pressures on Congress. US officials said in Washington today.

Furious

Senior administration officials said US Secretary of State George Shultz, in barring Arafat from addressing the UN, went against the advice of several high-ranking State Department Middle East experts.

President Reagan said today that he strongly supported the decision by Shultz to deny a US visa to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

"Under the law, that is the province of the Secretary of State but, yes, I agreed very much with his decision," Reagan said.

Shultz aides told the Washing-



King Hussein (right) and Arafat pose with an unidentified Palestinian child in Amman. (Reuters wirephoto)

ton Post and the New York Times, Shultz was furious at the presence at the recent PNC meeting of Abu Abbas.

Abu Abbas was convicted in Italy, in absentia, of masterminding the Achille Lauro hijacking in Oct 1985.

Amman-based PNC Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh said the American action had "debased the role and position of a country like the United States to achieve peace."

Salah Khalaf, another senior Palestinian official said the PLO

might reconvene the PNC to revoke recent moderate declarations after the US rejected Arafat's visa application.

Khalaf, also known by his codename of Abu Iyad, said that the American action was "tantamount to an open call for extremism."

But he indicated the PLO would not take any action until after US President-elect George Bush was sworn in. "We hope the Bush administration will take a different line toward the PLO though we're not so optimistic,"

He said the PLO's political department chief, Farouk Kadoumi, currently in New York, will file a request that General Assembly's debate on Palestine be moved to Geneva.

The UN Arab League Ambassador Clovis Maksoud, said today he has enough votes to reconvene the General Assembly in Geneva, so Arafat can address the world body on the Palestinian issue.

Arafat's adviser Bassam Abu Sharif said Washington had made a big mistake, arguing it had violated its 1947 headquarters treaty with the UN that obliges the US not to hinder people with legitimate business at the

(Continued on Page 2)

UK may lift ban on meeting PLO leaders

LONDON, Nov 27, (KUNA): British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher may soon lift a ban on Foreign Office ministers meeting PLO leaders, according to a report here today.

The Sunday Express newspaper said Thatcher was "urgently considering" whether or not to allow ministerial-level meetings with "moderates within the PLO command."

Such a move would be a "major snub" to Israel and would "infringe" Israeli leaders, as well as causing "consternation" in Washington, the weekly pointed out.

The issue is being considered following the PNC's decision to accept UN Resolution 242 at their recent meeting in Algiers.

Last week the Foreign Office described the PNC move as a "positive step" and said it was reconsidering its ban on ministerial talks with the PLO.

OPEC negotiations run into last-minute hitch

VIENNA, Nov 27, (Reuters): OPEC talks on a package to cut oil production stalled at the last minute today and Iran said negotiations could end without agreement.

The conference was thrown into turmoil by an unexpected proposal from Saudi Arabia to peg the price of OPEC oil between \$15 and \$18 per barrel, but Iran's main delegate in Vienna, Fereidoon Barkeshly, rejected the proposal.

Asked if talks might end without agreement, he said: "Yes."

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries had been on the brink of an accord earlier today when Iran's Cabinet signalled it would agree to a package of measures to slash oil output by 20 per cent.

Remove

Iran had been the last OPEC nation holding out against the deal which would cut production to 18.5 million barrels a day for the first six months of 1989 and Tehran's endorsement of a draft agreement seemed to remove all obstacle to signature.

But Riyadh's surprise intervention on pricing policy meeting into disarray.

"Iran is not going to accept this type of idea. Iran will not shoulder the responsibility for any complications," Barkeshly said.

Iran's Oil Minister, Gholamreza Aghazadeh, had carried a draft accord back to Tehran on Friday, but his deputy, Barkeshly, who remained to head the delegation in Vienna, said that he would not sign an agreement which included any new proposals.

He said Riyadh's last-minute attempt to insert a new clause into the accord was "a major diversion from OPEC resolutions so far."

"We are not going to concede

any new elements whatsoever," he added.

OPEC's draft agreement reaffirmed the 13-nation group's determination to maintain an \$18-a-barrel target price for its oil, but made no mention of \$15.

Delegates said Saudi Arabia had proposed a new mechanism to target prices, either setting a floor at \$15 per barrel with no upper ceiling, or setting a \$15-to-\$18 band.

In either case, Barkeshly made it clear the proposal was not acceptable to Iran since it tacitly watered down OPEC's two-year commitment to a price target of \$18.

Production

That target had become largely academic in recent months as a flood of OPEC oil onto world markets drove prices as much as eight dollars lower.

But Iran traditionally belongs to a group of "price hawks" within OPEC which favour low production to maximise prices and it appeared today to have already enlisted the support of Algeria and Libya in rejecting the Saudi proposal.

The price issue goes to the heart of long-standing policy divisions within the organisation.

Some Gulf producers, particularly Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, line up in the opposite camp, concentrating on keeping a share of the world market and pursuing a more modest price policy.

Oil prices soared at the end of last week on optimism that OPEC was on the verge of signing a deal which would reimpose output discipline and heal a long rift between Iran and Iraq.

But oil analysts warned that failure to overcome the last-minute dispute over pricing could send crude markets tumbling when traders return to their desks in Asia tomorrow.

Soviets hold first ever talks with Afghan rebels

MOSCOW, Nov 27, (KUNA): The first meeting between Soviet diplomats and representatives of the Afghan mujahideen was held in Islamabad today, the official Tass news agency reported in a dispatch from Pakistan.

"Discussions centred on the return of Soviet servicemen taken prisoner in Afghanistan by units of the opposition forces," the terse report concluded. Tass did not identify names or ranks of either side.

The Soviet Union had earlier refused to enter into talks with the mujahideen.

The mujahideen have refused to talk with the Kabul government of President Najibullah describing it as "puppet regime" installed by Moscow.

The mujahideen have not accepted the Geneva accords recently signed by the US, Pakistan, Soviet Union and Afghanistan stipulating a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Quoting senior Pakistani officials the weekly Observer of London reported today that the

Soviet-mujahideen talks could lead to a "major breakthrough" towards peace.

The weekly said that "ostensibly" the meeting was to discuss the fate of some 300 Soviet soldiers who have gone missing in action during the eight-year war, and whom Moscow believes are held by the mujahideen.

Suspended

But it added: "The meeting is likely to go much further. The Russians, who have suspended their withdrawal from Afghanistan, will seek an end to guerrilla attacks on departing Soviet troops to allow complete withdrawal by Feb 15, and will try to achieve a ceasefire so that a broadly-based government can be formed in Kabul."

Meanwhile, the Sunday Telegraph newspaper reported that the surrender of Kabul after February's planned Soviet withdrawal should be quicker than the fall of Saigon after the US pulled out of Vietnam in 1975.

Iran suspends POW exchange

NICOSIA, Nov 27, (AP): Iran said today it was halting further prisoner of war exchanges with Iraq until a full quota of Iranian POWs is released, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agency said the Red Cross-sponsored repatriation of sick and disabled prisoners from the Gulf war would be suspended pending return of the numbers originally agreed.

The International Committee for the Red Cross said Iran and Iraq freed 71 disabled soldiers today — 19 Iranians and 52 Iraqis — in the third such swap this week.

Iran has freed fewer prisoners than agreed, claiming that some Iraqis had sought asylum and others had recovered from their wounds and no longer were eligible.

Fewer

In retaliation, Iraq has released fewer Iranian POWs.

IRNA quoted the head of Iran's war prisoner committee, Ataollah Mohajerani, as blaming Iraq for "repeated violation" of the Nov 11 agreement mediated by the International Red Cross.

Mohajerani said the exchange would be suspended until Iraq repatriates another 67 POWs included in the accord, the agency said.

The agreement called for the release of up to 1,570 POWs in the last 10 days of November with around 110 Iraqis and 41 Iranians freed in each swap.

The prisoners were being shuttled between Baghdad and Tehran on a daily basis aboard a plane chartered by the Red Cross.

But the exchange got off to a troubled start on Thursday when Iran sent home only 52 disabled

Iraqi POWs. Iraq reciprocated by returning just 19 Iranians.

After the third exchange today, Iran had freed 155 Iraqis, while 56 Iraqis had been repatriated.

IRNA said that 22 Iraqis who were supposed to be freed today were found "ineligible" for the swap because they had recovered while being held.

Nine others remained in Iran for further medical examinations and three chose not to go home and were granted asylum, the agency said.

Proportion

An Iranian Foreign Ministry statement charged that "Iraq will still keep many ill or injured Iranian POWs in captivity," according to IRNA.

There was no immediate reaction from Iraq.

The head of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry's legal department, Akram Al Witr, said that Iraq would continue repatriating sick and wounded POWs but insisted on reciprocity.

"We will send them the same proportion of the number that they will send us," he said.

He said Iraq is not convinced by claims that some of the prisoners have opted to stay in Iran or have been cured of their disabilities.

"The Red Cross did not provide us with authenticated papers that they have asked to stay in Iran or not return back home," he said.

21 drowned

KHARTOUM, Nov 27, (Reuters): Twenty-one people were drowned when a sailboat capsized on the river Nile on the outskirts of Khartoum, the Sudan newspaper Al Khartoum said today.

Shiites fight defying Syrians

BEIRUT, Nov 27, (Reuters): Fighting flared up between rival Shiite Muslim militias in Syrian-policed West Beirut today in defiance of Syrian attempts to enforce a truce.

Police said militiamen of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah and pro-Syrian Amal blasted each other with rocket-propelled grenades and heavy machine-guns in the Al Hursh and Bir Hassan areas of the Lebanese capital.

Syrian soldiers, with orders to shoot gunmen who failed to end the bloody Shiite feud, took no immediate action to halt the fighting, they said. There was no immediate word on casualties.

A Hezbollah spokesman said the battles started when Amal gunmen ordered Hezbollah fol-

lowers in Al Hursh to leave their houses. An Amal spokesman said he had no idea what sparked the fighting.

Syrian soldiers came under fire earlier when they moved into the Janah area near the Iranian embassy to separate the two feuding, vying for the control of the 1.5 million Shiite community.

The Syrians arrested gunmen who were identified as members of Hezbollah, a security source said. Two Hezbollah men were wounded in the shooting.

Police said three people were killed and eight wounded in earlier truce violations today, raising the toll to 29 and 68 wounded since battles erupted between Amal and Hezbollah in West Beirut and the city's southern suburbs on Thursday.

In the southern suburbs, the rattle of sporadic machinegun fire and the thud of explosions echoed through badly-damaged streets, normally teeming with street vendors, taxis and pedestrians.

Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi arrived in Damascus yesterday at the end of an Arab tour saying Arab foreign ministers would meet to discuss Lebanon's political crisis.

United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan called for an Arab summit to tackle the stalemate in Lebanon, which has been without a president since Sept 23 when the term of President Amin Gemayel expired.

Pakistan to name premier on Thursday

ISLAMABAD, Nov 27, (Agencies): Acting Pakistan President Ghulam Ishaq Khan will name a prime minister on Thursday, state-run television said today.

It quoted a government spokesman as saying the new premier would take office on Friday.

Opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, whose Pakistan People's Party won the largest number of seats in the National Assembly in the month's general election, has said she should lead the next government.

The government had earlier said the prime minister would not be named before Dec 5, date for an oath-taking session for members of the new National Assembly (lower house of Parliament).

Benazir had complained that her political opponents in the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) were using the delay to try to coerce independents into a

(Continued on Page 2)

Kuwait remains on guard despite Gulf truce

MANAMA, Bahrain, Nov 27, (AP): Three months after the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war took hold, the Arab states in the Gulf are increasingly confident that peace has returned after eight years of conflict.

Kuwait, the country closest to the war zone and the target for Iranian missiles and sabotage during the fighting however, has cautiously kept its guard up since the ceasefire took hold.

Kuwait's military has "lowered its scale of alert," a Defence Ministry official reported. But he said a large contingent of troops remain on the islands off Kuwait, including Bubiya and Failaka, to guard against any Iranian incursion.

Defence

Like other Gulf states, Kuwait has been strengthening its defence capabilities. The government recently allocated KD1.53 billion (\$5.5 billion) for defence over the next decade.

Despite sabre-rattling by both Iran and Iraq and their peace

negotiations move at a snail's pace, diplomats and government officials along the Gulf argue that as the truce hardens, with no serious violations reported, neither Tehran nor Baghdad is likely to take up arms again — at least in the foreseeable future.

"It is now possible to say that the Gulf region has regained the peace and stability it lacked for so long," Bahrain's Crown Prince, Sheikh Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, noted a few days ago.

Effect

"We are optimistic about the future of peace in the region. This goal must be consolidated for the benefit of our people," he commented.

"We can now sense peace in the region," said Capt. Mario Buracchi, commander of the Italian flotilla in the Gulf, during a recent visit to Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates.

They echoed the relief that has swept the Gulf states since the United Nations-sponsored ceasefire took effect Aug 20 and

the belief that the war which had threatened them has ended at last, even if no formal peace treaty has yet been signed.

The legacy of insecurity caused by the war, however, remains, prompting several Gulf states to widen their diplomatic and economic links to avoid being dependent on East or West and to arm themselves sufficiently to deter any future Iranian adventures.

The Saudis, for instance, have purchased long-range Chinese ballistic missiles and British Tornados jet fighters.

Attitude

Kuwait is buying Soviet BMP armoured personnel carriers. Abu Dhabi is purchasing West German patrol craft armed with French Sadral anti-aircraft missiles.

Nonetheless, a Gulf-based Western diplomat noted: "It's very difficult now to imagine turning the clock back. The general feeling is positive."

With Iran's sudden military

collapse earlier this year, Tehran's more pragmatic leaders, primarily Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, have sought to normalise relations with Iran's Gulf neighbours, as well as Western countries.

US Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy noted recently that Tehran's attitude "is not a 180-degree turn, but... there's a softer tone toward regimes in the area."

"The Iranians are not abandoning the revolution, but they're obviously less aggressive about exporting it. We welcome that."

Economic necessity has also forced the Gulf states, including Iran which desperately needs revenue to pay for its post-war reconstruction, to pull together.

All the Gulf states have been affected to one degree or another by the crisis in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries because of over-production by some Gulf members and tumbling oil prices.

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اگر کوئی خبر ہے

- امریکی ویتنام سے انکار پر شدید عرب رد عمل
- وزیر اعظم کی ماریوگی کا اعلان جمہوریت کو ہوا
- صدر سے نوایزادہ نصر اللہ اور کمر کے زکرات
- پاکستان مسلم لیگ کی صفوں میں اشتکار
- جمیت علماء اسلام کے دھڑے پھر متحد ہو گئے
- بین الاقوامی شہر میں بھارت کی ٹگت کا امکان

WEATHER

FAIR weather with light to moderate south-easterly wind changes gradually to moderate north-westerly wind and a chance for some clouds.

State of sea: moderate to rough
High water: 1.00 am, 4.09 pm
Low water: 9.00 am, 9.00 pm
Sunrise: 6.22 am
Sunset: 4.49 pm
Maximum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 27°C 81°F
Amman: 22°C 72°F
Falkland: 24°C 75°F
Minimum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 9°C 48°F
Amman: 14°C 57°F
Falkland: 12°C 54°F
Maximum temperature expected:
Kuwait: 24°C 75°F
Amman: 21°C 70°F
Falkland: 22°C 72°F
Minimum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 51 per cent
Amman: 59 per cent
Falkland: 65 per cent

ہجرت من الاصل

INTERNATIONAL

British law lords back Shakespeare

LONDON, Nov 27. (Reuters): Three British law lords unanimously rejected a claim today that the works of William Shakespeare were more likely to have been written by Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford.

Sitting in Middle Temple Hall, an Elizabethan chamber where Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" was first performed, they heard arguments for both viewpoints in a public "moot", or debate.

"The English love a lord, and refuse to believe poetry of such genius could have been written by the son of a glover," Lord Templeman said.

But if Abraham Lincoln only went to school for a year and had written the Gettysburg address without the help of ghost writers such as those who now haunted the White House, he added, there was no reason why the son of a glovermaker from Stratford-upon-Avon should not have written the plays.

Lord Ackner, presiding, said: "Surely it would have been apparent to anyone connected with the theatre, and to his fellow actors in particular, if he (Shakespeare) was not the creator of the plays."

The lords, members of the Upper House of Parliament who sit as Britain's Supreme Court, held the discussion to raise money to rebuild the Globe Theatre by the Thames, where Shakespeare's plays were originally performed. The "moot" is thought to have raised at least £10,000 (\$18,300).

Lord Templeman said there was clear evidence Shakespeare had been an active actor manager, first in the Lord Chamberlain's company, then in the king's company, and that he acted in Ben Jonson's and other plays.

Six killed in a new wave of clashes

Party leaders sacked in troubled Azerbaijani regions

MOSCOW, Nov 27. (Agencies): The Communist Party leaders in the Soviet Azerbaijani city of Kirovabad and Nakhichevan region have been sacked in the wake of a new wave of ethnic clashes in which at least six people have been killed.

Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry spokesman Musa Mamedov said today the decisions were taken at emergency sessions yesterday to discuss the violence, involving Armenians and Azerbaijanis.

"I can tell you that the first secretaries in both places were replaced," Mamedov told Reuters by telephone. He named the Kirovabad official as Ramiz Bagirly and the Nakhichevan party chief as Feyruz Mustafayev.

He said Mustafayev had been replaced by Geydar Isayev, a member of the Azerbaijani Com-

munist Party central committee, but he did not know the name of Bagirly's replacement.

Mamedov said the situation in Nakhichevan had calmed down but Kirovabad was still tense. He said he could neither confirm nor deny whether there had been further clashes in the city.

The Soviet military newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda said on Wednesday Soviet Interior Ministry troops called in to Kirovabad to restore order had stopped many attempts to slaughter Armenians there this week.

Other newspapers reported attacks on Soviet police stations and Communist Party offices in various parts of Azerbaijan, indicating that the violence was no longer solely directed against Armenians but against the authorities as well.

A Soviet official in Moscow

said earlier that party headquarters in Kirovabad had been sacked by an angry crowd.

He said the violence had been sparked by rumours that a forthcoming session of the Soviet parliament, the Supreme Soviet, planned to hand over to Armenia the disputed Azerbaijani territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

The dispute has been at the centre of nine months of unrest in the two neighbouring republics, costing more than 40 lives.

The youth newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda said at least 160 people had been hurt in the latest wave of violence. Previous reports put the number of injured at about 130.

Defending
Four of the six deaths reported by Soviet officials were soldiers killed defending Armenians and their homes in Kirovabad. The

other two were Azerbaijani citizens.

But Armenian sources insist that there have been deaths among their community in Azerbaijan.

Krasnaya Zvezda today confirmed a report by the Armenian mission in Moscow that two Azerbaijanis were killed after they attempted to ram a military outpost on a bridge dividing the Armenian quarter from the rest of Kirovabad.

It said a crowd on the bridge had also set fire to a military vehicle and had then hurled stones, bottles and Molotov cocktails at soldiers attempting to put out the flames.

Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev said the violence in the trans-Caucasian republics had to end.

"Democracy and Glasnost

(openness) permit people to express their viewpoints on any question through the press, at rallies and meetings. This should be acclaimed," Gorbachev said.

But, at the same time, we should firmly reject attempts to blackmail, to put pressure and to distort the will of working people or (parliamentary) disputes."

He said the violence in the southern republics, where at least five people have died, must come to an end.

"This is not democracy. Therefore, let us stop those, within the framework of the democratic process, who seek to encroach on normal functioning of glasnost and Soviet democracy," he said at a meeting of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet before a full session of the national legislature convenes on Tuesday.

Bush likely to face pressure for anti-satellite weapons

NEW YORK, Nov 27. (Reuters): The next US administration is likely to face pressure to develop its \$16 billion "Star Wars" missile defence programme into an offensive anti-satellite weapons system, the New York Times reported today.

The newspaper said technical progress would soon make such a system feasible and cited growing pressure to produce payoffs for President Reagan's six-year-old Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), commonly known as "Star Wars."

Quoting defence sources and independent arms experts, the Times said some programme officials are actively campaigning for use against satellites, which would be far easier targets to hit than ballistic missiles.

Lieutenant General Robert Hammond, commander of the Army's strategic defence command in Huntsville, Alabama, was quoted as saying the United States "badly needs" such a system and that his command "stands ready" to build one.

Smash
The best developed US system Hammond said, would involve homing rockets meant to smash into satellites, which can be disabled by tiny projectiles. But one expert warned the United States might be most vulnerable to such an attack.

"Given our greater overall dependence on space-based military systems, we have more to lose if the race to build anti-satellite weapons heats up," Paul Stares, a senior fellow at Washington's Brookings Institution, was quoted as saying.

"It's a very short sighted policy," he said. With pressure to cut the Pentagon budget, "anything that maintains momentum will be keenly pursued, and the development of anti-satellite weapons is clearly one possible source of momentum."

President Reagan reluctantly acceded this year to congressional demands not to deploy Star Wars weapons in keeping with a narrow interpretation of a 1974 US-Soviet anti-ballistic missile systems protocol.

But the Times said there has been no clear indication of what position President-elect Bush will take on the issue.

Shuttle prepares for military mission

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, Nov 27. (Reuters): The US space shuttle Atlantis is due to blast off on Thursday on a military mission to deploy what NASA sources say is a powerful spy satellite.

The flight, the second US manned mission since the 1986 Challenger disaster, is regarded as a major step toward clearing a backlog of launches of intelligence-gathering satellites.

US Air Force officials are counting on the shuttle's return to space to help them retrieve a launch programme cut adrift by the Challenger mid-flight explosion and a string of rocket accidents.

Defence analysts say the United States must improve its ageing constellation of spy satellites to keep pace with the Soviet Union.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) spokesman Karl Kristofferson said the countdown was set to begin on Monday.

Officials are cloaking the launch preparations and the flight of the Atlantis in secrecy to make it difficult for the Soviet Union to track the deployment of the shuttle's classified military payload. It is the third Defence Department mission in 27 shuttle flights.

The handling of Atlantis' flight is in sharp contrast to the highly-publicised Sept 29 launch of the shuttle Discovery, which returned the United States to manned space flight 32 months after the shuttle Challenger exploded, killing all seven astronauts on board.

Blast-off for Atlantis and its crew of five military officers has been scheduled for between 6:32 and 7:32 am. (2332 and 0232 GMT), but NASA will not reveal the exact launch time until the countdown clock has ticked down to nine minutes.

After launch, a news blackout will be imposed until the space-ship lands at Edwards Air Force Base in California. Even the length of the mission has not been confirmed.

US denial of visa for Arafat denounced

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world body. US authorities say their right to safeguard national security takes precedence.

"Arafat is as much a terrorist as George Washington," Abu Sharif said. "It shows the US administration is supporting blindly the Israeli occupation of our land Palestine."

The PLO chief had planned to address the General Assembly's annual Palestine debate on Dec 1. Aides said he had wanted to request a seat for the state declared by the PNC.

The Algerian government criticised the American decision calling it "a negative and unjustifiable development."

Libya urged Arabs today to work for the removal of UN headquarters from the US.

The Libyan news agency JANA, said Washington's refusal to grant a visa to Arafat was evidence of the strategic harmony between the US and Israel.

Denounced
The Federation of Arab News Agencies (FANA) today strongly denounced the US decision.

A statement by FANA president Barges Hamoud Al Barges said that this action was not directed against Arafat in particular, but was aimed at dealing a blow to the recent achievements of the Palestinian people on the international level, particularly the declaration of the independent Palestinian state.

Italy today expressed amazement at Washington's decision to deny Arafat a visa.

A Foreign Ministry statement in Rome said the US charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Ministry to be told this could be resolved.

The statement said the envoy was told that the PNC on Nov 15 had recognised UN resolutions and repudiated terrorism.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir today praised the US decision, saying it would help thwart a PLO diplomatic campaign for recognition of a Palestinian state.

Shamir's spokesman Avi Pazner said it was evidence there had been no change in US policy that regarded the PLO as a terrorist organisation.

Talks

The Foreign Minister of Israel, Shimon Peres, sent a cable of gratitude to Shultz for turning down Arafat's visa application.

Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson has called on Israel to start direct peace talks with the PLO.

Pope John Paul called for a Palestinian homeland and suggested that Israel should see the PNC's implicit recognition of the Jewish state as a positive step.

In his first public comment today on the issue since the proclamation of the Palestinian state, the Pope also called for an end to the suffering of Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories and refugees elsewhere.

Pakistan to name premier on Thursday

(Continued from Page 1)

coalition to keep her out of power.

Benazir's PPP won 99 seats in the Nov 16 voting.

But the IDA, which is led by Nawaz Sharif and won 57 seats, has been trying to form a coalition together with independents and minority parties.

Pakistan's constitution empowers the President to name as prime minister the candidate he believes is most likely to command majority support.

A prime minister must win a vote of confidence from the 237-seat house within 60 days of the nomination.

If named, Benazir, 35, would be the first woman elected to govern a Muslim state.

Storm batters central US

MISSISSIPPI, Nov 27. (UPI): A powerful storm battering the central United States brought half a foot of snow to the Midwest yesterday and spawned tornadoes in Texas, Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi, where a twister that tore through a rural town demolished a high school.

A heavy blanket of snow covered Utah's mountains, with 30 inches (75 cm) falling in the Alta area from Friday afternoon to yesterday morning.

Namibians will be free to choose political system, says SWAPO

LUANDA, Nov 27. (Reuters): The Namibian nationalist group SWAPO will let Namibians choose what kind of political system they want if SWAPO wins elections expected next year when Namibia becomes independent from South Africa.

Andimba Toivo Ya Toivo, secretary-general of SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation), told Reuters last night that a SWAPO government would also work to wean mineral-rich Namibia from economic dependence on South Africa.

But it would not automatically nationalise large-scale private mining enterprises or livestock farms to impose state control on the economy.

Broadly outlining SWAPO's policies, Toivo Ya Toivo said his organisation, which has fought

for Namibia's independence for more than two decades, was confident it would win an overall majority in elections scheduled to be held under a UN independence blueprint for Namibia.

Process
The UN plan, Security Council Resolution 435 adopted in 1978, is the centrepiece of a US-mediated peace process for Angola and Namibia and is expected to be implemented next year.

Through the UN-supervised polls, Namibians will elect a constituent assembly to draw up a constitution for the territory, ruled by South Africa in defiance of the United Nations in the past 70 years.

Asked what kind of political system SWAPO favoured, Toivo Ya Toivo said: "We are flexible ... the elections will decide and

the people of Namibia will decide."

The SWAPO secretary-general, second in the group's hierarchy after President Sam Nujoma, said SWAPO foresaw a socialist path of development for Namibia's economy, which is based on fishing, cattle and sheep ranching and mining of diamonds, copper, gold and uranium.

Disruption
SWAPO's overall objective would be to gradually reduce Namibia's heavy dependence on the more powerful South African economy. "But we will try to avoid disruption ... it will be a slow process," Toivo Ya Toivo said.

For example, a SWAPO government would not immediately take over foreign-owned mining companies.

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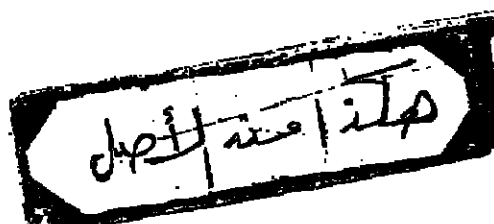
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Sahara referendum

MADRID, Nov 27. (Reuters): King Hassan II of Morocco was quoted today as saying a referendum on the future of the Western Sahara would favour union with Morocco.

Vassiliou wants Cyprus demilitarised

ATHENS, Nov. 27. (AP): President George Vassiliou of Cyprus said today he wants the war-divided island demilitarised, but has reached agreement with the Greek government in the meantime to strengthen its defence capability.

"As long as there is a Turkish occupation Army in north Cyprus we have an obligation to strengthen our defences," Vassiliou told a news conference at the end of a two-day visit for consultations with the Greek government.

He added that as soon as the estimated 35,000 Turkish troops withdraw from the northern, Turkish-occupied part of the island, "we can give away or sell our weapons to fulfill our intention for the demilitarisation of Cyprus."

Vassiliou said the agreement for strengthening Cypriot defence capabilities "does not include the dispatch of any Greek troops to Cyprus."

Details

He added that details were worked out during his meeting with Greek Premier Andreas Papandreu yesterday in the presence of the Greek and Cypriot defence ministers, Yan-

nis Charalambopoulos and Andreas Aloxetis.

Papandreu stated after that meeting that "the increase of the defence capability of Cyprus is also a Greek responsibility."

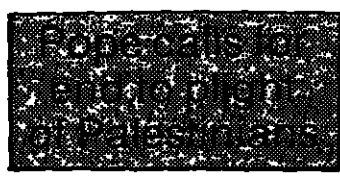
Aloxetis told the Associated Press that under the agreement Greece will supply Cyprus with Greek-made armaments and that a joint industry will be established for the manufacture of spare parts in Cyprus.

Vassiliou stopped over in Athens on his way home from the United Nations in New York where he had conferred with Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash and the UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The purpose of the meeting was to review progress achieved during the UN-sponsored talks for the reunification of the island between the two Cypriot leaders.

Differences

Vassiliou said the first phase of the talks during the previous two months had confirmed "the wide differences between the two sides."

He added that the two sides accepted a procedural proposal by Perez de Cuellar to continue the talks by drafting a series of alternative settlement proposals on all aspects of the problem.



VATICAN CITY, Nov. 27. (UPI): Pope John Paul II appealed to the Israelis, Palestinians and international bodies today to seek "to put an end as quickly as possible to the sufferings of the Palestinians."

He led prayers in St Peter's Square "that the Israeli and Palestinian peoples, each loyally accepting the other and their legitimate aspirations, may find a solution that permits them to live, each in their own homeland, in liberty, dignity and security."

Vatican sources said that while the Vatican has never openly expressed its views on a solution of the Israeli-Palestinian problem, the Pope has supported the call for a Palestinian homeland in meetings with Arab leaders, including PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

The Pope made his pressing appeal before 20,000 pilgrims and tourists attending his noon Angelus prayer service in the St Peter's Square.

The Pope's prayers marked the first Sunday of Advent, the period in which the Roman Catholic Church prepares to celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas.

Marcos supporters call for Army takeover

Troops go on full alert in Manila

MANILA, Nov. 27. (Reuters): Philippine troops went on full alert around Manila during the weekend when busloads of supporters of ex-President Ferdinand Marcos drove into the capital bearing leaflets calling for an Army takeover.

Numbering about 2,000 men and women, the all-civilian group rode into Manila last night in two convoys from different provinces. They were blocked by troops who ordered them out of the capital, police said today.

Nine leaders of the group were detained on sedition charges, police said. Scores of Marcos supporters today staged a motorcade around Manila carrying streamers calling for the deposed ruler's return from Hawaiian exile. The demonstration was peaceful.

Leaflets seized from the group called on soldiers to join an Army seizure of power and offered cash rewards of up to three million pesos (\$145,000) for the capture

of each of President Corazon Aquino's top generals.

"The armed forces of the Philippines is now taking over the national government to establish a constitutional military government for the security of state and the protection of the Filipino people," the leaflet said.

A convoy of 23 mini-buses carrying 500 civilians describing themselves as provincial farmers got to within three kilometres of Aquino's palace before soldiers spotted them.

At about the same time, soldiers intercepted another convoy of some 1,500 Marcos followers as they prepared to march to a pro-government television station, police said.

Brigadier-General Rodolfo Biazon, chief of Manila's security command, said the group apparently wanted to stage a "people power show" for Marcos and dismissed a fresh coup attempt as "out of the question."

"I am not letting my guard down," Biazon said as he placed the 12,000 troops and police in his command on full alert as a precautionary move. Military checkpoints were also set up around Manila during the night.

Strides

Meanwhile, Defence Minister General Fidel Ramos says the Philippines is making strides in its drive to defeat communist rebels by adopting a new broad-based counter-insurgency strategy.

According to a written military intelligence assessment, the strength of communist rebel forces has fallen for the first time in a decade because of the strategy.

But the guerrillas, under strong pressure on the battlefield, are shifting their fight to northern towns and cities from the jungles in the south of the Pacific archipelago.

Ramos said in an interview the armed forces were scoring increased combat successes

against the communists and were reducing their influence because of a broad-based "total approach" strategy to counter-insurgency.

"Previous campaigns just ended up being search and destroy operations," Ramos said. "But this is not going to be effective if they can just rebuild their field infrastructure."

He said the government was now involving local civilian administrations and volunteer defence groups to back the military drive.

According to the military intelligence assessment, the strength of the communist New People's Army (NPA) dropped for the first time in Oct to 24,430 men from a high of 25,800 in June.

The strength of the NPA has been rising steadily from around 8,000 in 1980. It jumped to 22,500 from 14,360 between 1984 and 1985 during the last months of the rule of Marcos, the documents show.

S. Korea may get civilian defence chief

SEOUL, Nov. 27. (AP): President Roh Tae-woo may appoint a civilian as Defence Minister for the first time in nearly three decades as part of his efforts to ease public anger over his disgraced predecessor's officials said today.

Government and ruling party sources said the reorganisation, expected early next month, may affect as many as 70 senior officials, including the defence minister and other key cabinet posts.

To resolve the discontent of the opposition, we realise the quality of the shake-up is very important, and it is highly likely that we would have a civilian defence minister," one government official said.

A well-placed source in the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) echoed these comments, adding, "President Roh really means business, and he wants to reflect the opposition's view as much as possible."

Appeal

In a nationally televised speech on Saturday, Roh appealed to the nation to forgive his disgraced predecessor. Chun Doo-hwan, and Roh promised speedier democratic reforms, including a major shake-up of his government and party.

Chun, who stepped down in February, was forced to take rural exile last Wednesday after coming under attack for corruption and abuse of power during his seven-year rule. He surrendered all of his property, worth \$24 million, in atonement.

Opposition leaders refused to accept the presidential plea for mercy for Chun and called for a thorough probe by the National Assembly or a special prosecutor.

Likud woos Labour with Finance Ministry offer

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Nov. 27. (AP): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud Party may propose the prestigious Cabinet post of Finance Minister for Labour Party leader Shimon Peres to heighten chances of Israel being ruled again by a joint government, news reports said today.

According to the proposal, drawn up this weekend during secret contacts between Likud and Labour, Peres would get the finance portfolio while American-born Moshe Arens of Likud would replace Peres as Foreign Minister, four prominent newspapers said. Yitzhak Rabin of Labour would remain Defence Minister, they said.

The reported compromise appeared likely to entice Labour leaders back to the negotiating

table after breaking off talks with Likud last week.

The talks ended after Shamir objected to meeting Labour's key demand of an equal role in the Cabinet, including two key ministries besides defence.

Shamir aide and Likud legislator Roni Milo indicated today that a proposal to give Labour the powerful Finance Ministry was under consideration but said on Army Radio it "would still have to be discussed by the Likud ministers."

Shamir's spokesman Yossi Ahimeir said the reports were "speculation," but acknowledged that Shamir has sought ways of renewing negotiations for a coalition with Labour.

"A way must be found to bring about talks for a broad and stable government. This he

(Shamir) definitely wants," Ahimeir said in a telephone interview.

He added that Shamir hoped to form a government, with or without Labour, by the end of the week.

Labour officials responded sceptically to the reported compromise, but indicated it would be considered if offered.

"For those like me who oppose the Labour Party joining the government it won't matter whether Labour is offered the Finance Ministry," said party secretary and legislator Uzi Bar-Am. "There will be a big struggle inside the party."

News reports said Shamir may discuss the proposal with Peres after the weekly Cabinet session, which convenes at Shamir's office.

Shots fired at North Yemeni regime's foe

DEARBORN, Michigan, Nov. 27. (AP): Shots were fired last night from a passing car at a group that included Ibrahim Al Wazir, an opponent of the government of North Yemen, said a spokesman for Al Wazir.

The spokesman, Hani Issac, said Al Wazir was unhurt but another man in the group was wounded in the leg. Issac said the shooting occurred late last night outside a restaurant in this Detroit suburb. Dearborn is home to many members of the area's large Arab community.

Confirmed

Dearborn police confirmed a shooting took place but refused to release any details until Monday.

Al Wazir, 56, an opponent of the government of North Yemen, a nation of about six million on the Arabian peninsula, was on a three-day visit to the Detroit area from his home in Washington, Issac said.

Vietnam may allow US to use Cam Ranh Bay

MANILA, Nov. 27. (AP): Vietnam reportedly may allow the United States and other countries to use refuelling and repair facilities now used by Soviet warships at Cam Ranh Bay.

Filipino reporters today quoted Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co as saying the idea was under serious consideration and that the offer could be made "in the near future."

"Cam Ranh Bay will be opened to others in the future. We are thinking about it seriously," Co was quoted as saying. "We would like to show the world that we're a peaceful country and that we're not reserving the privilege to just one country."

US bases

The reports appeared as Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus departed for a three-day visit to Hanoi. It would be the first cabinet-level visit by a Filipino official to Vietnam since

the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1976.

Filipino reporters who flew to Hanoi to cover the visit reported that Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach was expected to ask Manglapus to explain the Philippine position on the future of the six US military bases. The lease expires in 1991.

"We would like to seek an understanding with the Philippine government about its perspective of a Southeast Asia without a foreign military presence," Co was quoted as saying. "It would be in the interest of the region to have no more foreign military presence of any kind or in any form," he was quoted as saying.

President Corazon Aquino has refused to say whether she will support extending the US bases' lease. Last month, the United States and the Philippines signed an agreement for the bases until 1991, in return for \$962 million in US aid during this period.

Iran raps UN

NICOSIA, Nov. 27. (Reuters): Iran has criticised a United Nations report accusing it of continued human rights violations and offered to co-operate to "clarify the truth," IRNA said.

It quoted UN representative Mohammad Jafar Mahallati as saying the report by the UN special commission on human rights was largely based on what he termed biased accusations by the Baghdad-based Mujahideen-Khalq.

The agency said Mahallati, in an speech on Friday at a meeting of the commission, offered to co-operate with the UN special representative on Iran.



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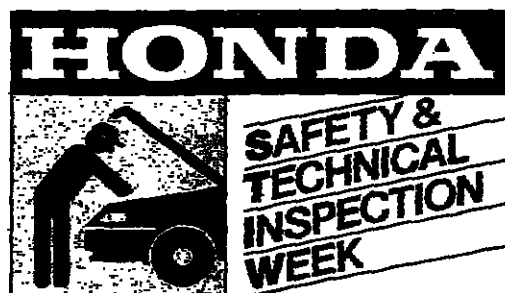
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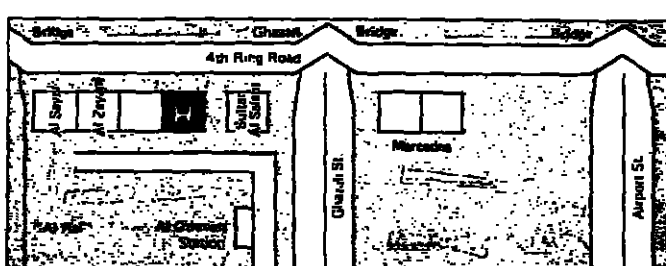
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Hussein refuses petition for clemency for son

BAGHDAD, Nov. 27, (AP): President Saddam Hussein yesterday refused a clemency petition for his son Qadai who stands accused of killing one of his father's bodyguards.

In an address to an Arab youth meeting, Saddam said the case has been referred to judicial authorities and they will make a decision in accordance with the law.

The Iraqi president was responding to a petition submitted by the meeting's participants seeking a pardon for his 25-year-old son, now under indictment in the death of Kamel Hana Gegeo on Oct. 18.

Calls

Similar calls for a pardon, including one from Gegeo's father Hana, said to be a cook for the president, have appeared in state-run newspapers over the past few days.

Saddam did not make any comment on the newspaper appeals.

"I will not make use of my constitutional right to pardon this man," he told the youth meeting.

"Rather, if you had asked me

to give you my house, I would immediately collect my belongings and leave," he said.

In a letter published in state-run newspapers earlier this week Saddam ordered Justice Minister Akram Abdul Qader Al Douri to investigate the killing. Al Douri appointed a three-member committee of judges to carry out the investigation.

His letter said Gegeo was slain in a dispute with Qadai while firing his gun in a villa near the presidential palace. When Gegeo refused to stop, Qadai hit him over the head with a bat.

The letter said Gegeo died in the hospital.

The Iraqi leader said Qadai, the eldest of his five children, tried to commit suicide after hearing that Gegeo had died and was himself hospitalised before being jailed three days later.

Qadai attempted suicide twice more while in prison but his life was again saved by doctors, according to Saddam's letter.

Informed sources in Nicosia said the bodyguard, believed to be in his 20s, was the son of the governor who raised Saddam's three daughters.

Kuwait making progress in agriculture: official

AGRICULTURAL activities in Kuwait are viable due to state subsidies and services provided to farmers in the form of roads, electricity, telephones, and water, according to Jassem Al Ammer, assistant secretary-general of the Council of Ministers and managing director of the Agricultural Food Products Co.

The official pointed out that by using the latest technological and scientific methods in the agricultural sector, it is now possible to plant crops which had been difficult to cultivate.

This year farmers began planting wheat. The company cultivated 150,000 square metres of wheat in response to the desire of HH the Amir and the plans of the Public Authority for Agricul-

ture. The company abides by a contract with the Public Authority for Agriculture and Fish Wealth to market the local agricultural products, he said.

Projects

He added the company actively participated in the activities of Afforestation Week. The company distributed seeds of vegetables to citizens at nominal prices.

The company's projects in the field of greenhouses have been expanded at its farms in Abdali and Wafra agricultural areas.

The company also plans to open new branches in different areas to market its products. The company markets about 15 kinds of vegetables produced by local farms, the official said.

Yum Yum America food festival begins



US Ambassador W. Nathaniel Howell (left) and Pritam Devgon at yesterday's news conference held at the envoy's home. (Photo by Rashed Qutaina)

By Fathima Ahmed

US Ambassador W. Nathaniel Howell, renewing the longstanding "commitment to commercial exchanges" between Kuwait and the US, said his country can offer education to help boost Kuwait's efforts to develop its agricultural sector.

Howell yesterday launched the second Yum Yum America food festival in Kuwait and emphasised the cordial trade ties between both countries. He told reporters: "Both trading nations depend on interchange of goods and ideas to generate growth and sustain the well-being of our peoples," apart from sharing "a number of values and experiences."

Strides

The US envoy said: "Kuwait has developed its (agricultural) capabilities and has made strides in such notable product areas as poultry and dairy farming, forage crops, date palms and vegetables."

He also referred to the Keep Kuwait Green Week, held last month under the patronage of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah.

To further develop Kuwait's capabilities, "The US can offer education in the field of agriculture," Howell said.

American companies are also interested in taking part in the "Keep Kuwait Green" — tree planting campaign — recently launched by the Kuwait government.

Howell said American exporters "have benefitted from the opportunities in Kuwait and have found a stable trading partner," in an "important and valued market" for American products.

There are over 400 American products on the market, 40 of which will be promoted at the Yum Yum America festival, starting today at two supermarkets and three co-operatives. Products range from almonds, biscuits, grape leaves, savoury snacks and preserves to sauces and canned food.

Upward

Agricultural trade between the US and Kuwait, which had been on the decline in recent years, has begun to show an "upward trend," according to Pritam Devgon, director of the Agricultural Trade Office in Kuwait.

The value of US agricultural exports to Kuwait, on an FOB basis, averages between \$36 million and \$40 million per year.

The single largest export package is comprised of canned food, fresh fruit and vegetables (29 per cent). This is followed by grain (20 per cent), livestock (30 per cent), seeds (one per cent) and other products (five per cent). Agricultural products form between eight and 12 per cent of total US exports to Kuwait.

The US is the second largest exporter to Kuwait. The Yum Yum America Festival has been sponsored by the Agricultural Trade Office and the US embassy, in co-operation with 11 local companies.

Sampling of US products at the festival will continue every evening from 5 to 9 pm at Safeway, The Sultan Center and the Rawdah, Dahlat Abdullah Al Salem and Kaifan co-operatives.

Exam at embassy

ALL India Management Association Diploma examination papers 05, 07 and 02, 04 will be held at the Indian Embassy premises from 1st to 4th Dec '88 from 7 to 10 am and 1.30 am to 2.30 pm respectively. Candidates registered for this exam are requested to report to the Indian Embassy on the above dates.

First kidney transplant in Oman a success

MUSCAT, Nov. 27, (AP): A 25-year-old mother of two was reported in good condition yesterday after surgeons at Muscat's Royal Hospital carried out the country's first kidney transplant operation.

The operation was very successful and both patient and donor are doing extremely well, the hospital's curative services director Dr Nasser Al Meimary said.

Brother

A Health Service spokesman said the three-hour transplant operation by a resident Tanzanian and a visiting British surgeon took place on Tuesday.

The woman was not identified, but sources at the hospital said she received a kidney from her brother, a policeman.

The woman had been receiving dialysis treatment for kidney failure since July, according to Dr Feidhlím Woods, a nephrologist at the hospital.

"It is quite an achievement for a country steeped in the middle ages 20 years ago. From the start of a renal failure programme to a transplant in just five years is remarkable," he said.

Neighbouring Gulf countries, notably Saudi Arabia, have already developed kidney transplant programmes. But Oman faced problems setting up a similar facility because Omanis are traditionally reluctant to donate blood or a kidney.

Dr Woods said that making kidney transplants available in Oman will also help discourage Omanis from having the operation in India.

Experts give advice on plant maintenance



Italian Ambassador L. Forattini opening the technological seminar, 'Italian Plant Maintenance Proposals'.

By Lima Al Khalafawi

PROPER maintenance of power generator systems and the efficient running of generating units are the main goals of a plant's policy.

Speaking at a technological seminar entitled "Italian Plant Maintenance Proposals" at the Meridien Hotel yesterday, Bertoniello, marketing manager of Ansaldo Engineering, said that co-ordination of plans and operations of all sectors involved maintenance service contributes to the efficient operation of any plant.

Optimum

He added that maintenance involves several different areas: corrective maintenance, scheduled maintenance (divided into preventive and predictive maintenance), plant outage maintenance and major overhaul.

Discussing spare parts, he said that spare parts lists should be based mainly on the plant's commercial inventory and carried out by adopting specific assessment criteria based on a systematic analysis of the plant's data and characteristics, and on the use of practical information.

To integrate information maintenance systems in an exist-

ing plant, information management systems must be installed and implemented, he said. All information required for optimum maintenance should be made available to managers.

Training programmes are very important and should be tailored to suit plant needs, he added.

The manager of the desalination and waste treatment department of Italmimpianti, Eng. Roberto Borsani said that typical maintenance activities include inspections during operation, troubleshooting, routine maintenance, plant overhaul and unplanned maintenance.

He added that specific information to carry out maintenance work with highly skilled, informed personnel to minimise breakdowns is very important.

The work execution includes: repair order control, job analysis, scheduling, forecasting or long-term scheduling inventory control of materials, tools and equipment and planning and measurements.

Giuseppe Nuzzi, field service engineer of Nuovo Pignone, spoke about problems during the startup and injection schedule.

The seminar was opened by the Italian Ambassador to Kuwait, L. Forattini.

BAHRAIN DIGEST

Photo exhibition planned

BAHRAIN is set to celebrate the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on Tuesday.

To mark the occasion, the United Nations Information Centre in Bahrain (UNIC) in association with the United School International, will be holding a photo exhibition depicting the history and struggle of Palestinians in their quest for their freedom and homeland.

According to Adel Al Bin Ali, information officer of UNIC, the aim of the exhibition will be to present the historical struggle of Palestinians to all the people in Bahrain, to attract maximum attention to the Palestinian issue on the island and to draw the attention of the young generation here to the Palestinian problem.

"We expect a big response to the exhibition and would like to see everyone attending it. We would like to attract maximum public attention to the Palestinian subject. We would particularly like to see more students coming to the exhibition, as it is very important to educate the young generation about Palestine," said Ali.

The exhibition, which will be staged at the Um Al Hassam School, will display photographs of Palestine. It will be opened by Dr Hamad Al Sulaiti, Undersecretary of Ministry of Education.

This year's International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People holds added importance in view of the declaration of independence of Palestine on Nov. 15 and her recognition by nearly 60 countries, stated Ali.

"We are very keen to promote and highlight the Palestinian issue, especially now after her recognition by nearly one-third of the free world. We in the UNIC are naturally keen to see further developments of the issue and to see more awareness of the new country among the broadest spectrum of world society with the help of the media. Our aim is to carry on until a comprehensive peace has been made regarding Palestine," explained Ali.

Various activities are organised by non-governmental organisations around the world with the assistance of UNIC office to celebrate this day.

The International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People is observed by the United Nations on Nov. 29 each year in accordance with Resolution 32/40B adopted by the UN General Assembly on Dec. 2, 1977.

Meanwhile, the United Nations will be marking the World AIDS Day on Thursday and the 40th anniversary of the UN's human rights declaration, on Dec. 10, according to the UNIC office here. Various activities are planned to mark both the occasions in Bahrain.

Buses to use natural gas

BUSES in Bahrain will start running on natural gas early next year. The Bahrain National Gas Co (BANAGAS) will convert three buses, owned and operated by the Ministry of Transportation, to run on compressed natural gas by spring.

According to Sheikh Ibrahim bin Rashid Al Khalifa, chairman and managing director of BANAGAS, the decision is part of a long-term plan when natural gas will have to be used by vehicles after oil eventually runs out. He said considerable research and studies have taken place to prepare for that day.

Sheikh Ibrahim said that natural gas is already in use for vehicles in other parts of the world including New Zealand, Japan and Scandinavia.

The basic system has been designed and approved for the project, which is expected to take between three to six months.

Sheikh Ibrahim cited New Zealand where the use of natural gas for vehicles has proved to be highly successful commercially. About 100,000 private and government vehicles are already running on natural gas in that country.

BANAGAS has been operating 12 of its vehicles on compressed natural gas for two years.

Sheikh Ibrahim said that the use of natural gas is part of the country's policy of using the huge oil resources available in Bahrain as well as promoting a healthy environment through a non-polluting fuel.

Plan to be discussed

ARCOOT Ramachandran, executive director of United Nations Centre for Human Settlement (Habitat) arrived in Bahrain yesterday on a four-day official visit at the invitation of Minister of Housing and Acting President of the Central Municipal Council, Sheikh Khalid Bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.

During his visit, Ramachandran will discuss with officials here various issues related to Bahrain's National Land Use Plan.

A United Nations development programme which is financed by the government of Bahrain, Habitat provides technical assistance to the Ministry of Housing in carrying out various objectives of the National Land Use Plan.

Habitat has been active in Bahrain for a number of years.

Before assuming his present post, Ramachandran was permanent secretary to the government of India in the United Nations Department of Science and Technology.

Food poisoning reported

A LOCAL daily reported that 15 pupils at Abu Halifa Secondary School for boys suffered from food poisoning after eating breakfast at the school. Teachers provided first-aid and rushed the sufferers to the nearest health centre.

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INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

Cruelty drowns the cries of helpless wives

By Fathima Ahmed

It was reported on Saturday that 1,800 dowry deaths occurred in India last year. Bombay's filmmakers have made several melodramatic films on the terrible situation, mostly exploiting the issue for commercial gains. One movie, released last year, makes a genuine effort to focus on the tragedy.

Blunt but not shocking, *Bahu Ki Awaz* makes a poignant appeal to put an end to the curse of dowry. These days, brides are sold, grooms purchased, the price tag often too exorbitant for many middle-class parents to pay.

Bahu Ki Awaz opens with a little girl playing with her dolls, lamenting the dowry demands rejected by the doll-brides' parents. Her grandmother walks into the room and encourages the child to pursue her "demands." "Don't give up, you can extract something out of them," advises the woman, perhaps, reflecting the psyche of a materialistic generation banking on returns from an investment — the son.

"We spent on his schooling, education and will now spend on his marriage. We must get back the money from somewhere," say the parents, raising another question: are they parents or investors?

The film probes and questions: why did a sacred bond become business? Why are women oppressed and victimised? Why do some men become part of the conspiracy, however unwillingly? Why are some men so weak that they see the woman suffer but can't stand up for her?

Why, why, why?

Meenakshi Seshadri plays a dancing girl in *Inteqam*.

Not surprisingly, there are no answers.

The movie captures a woman's callousness — the mother-in-law's cruelty; a woman exploiting another woman, the "penniless" bride Kavita (Swaroop Sampath) who does not bring a cache of wealth from her father's house. Kavita's so-called penny spells her doom.

Ruthlessly, sometimes sympathetically, the camera focuses on the plight of Kavita as she is humiliated, starved, beaten and defamed by her in-laws. The husband is a silent, indifferent spectator, who seems to walk like a zombie through the nightmare that is Kavita's marriage.

The film was inspired by Bahu Maange Insaaf, a novel

written by Ved Prakash Sharma, addressing the apathy among the masses, their indifference, even acceptance of the practice.

Through a series of monologues, the director and scriptwriter tries to awaken the film's viewers from slumber and focus on the plight of women who don't deserve a cruel death. In doing so, it resorts to high drama and sentimentality that belies the serious intent of the film. But in Indian cinema, sentiments play a vital role, and so the indulgence in unavoidable revenge, a forgivable trait considering the impact it has on viewers.

Kavita's helplessness, her despair and utter dejection are enacted realistically by Swaroop Sampath. Naseerudin Shah plays a lawyer, who, disillusioned by the inefficiency of the law, blames himself and the society for the dowry deaths. Rakesh Roshan plays the husband and Supriya Pathak is the avenger.

Revenge
Talking of revenge, there is one that screams out "Inteqam." It's just that — brutal, ruthless and senseless revenge.

The film suffers from a weak script, and "superficiality" and "lack of an artificial set up" — right from the prologue to the destructive end — though mind you, nearly all films end on a happy note. And there are too many miscalculated mishaps — like the death of Chayya in an accident, the theatrical demise of the parents in a courtroom inflaming the not-so-surprising fury of their only son, Birju. From this point onward, his mission is to annihilate the family of the man who did injustice. To put right a wrong,

he does more harm than good. This is where a tearful Sita — alias Sitar Bai — makes her vengeful entry. Her target: Birju.

Birju has more enemies than friends. Vikram prowls the streets in the dead of night — in search of his sister Sita and Birju. And guess what? Vikram and Birju are the best of friends by day. Cliched dialogue — like "I'll destroy him" leads you to the next "punch line" — which invariably refers to animal qualities.

So, what's new? Amjad Khan in a brief comic cameo, trying to squeeze his girth under a car, while fleeing from the hoodlum Jacob, a self-confessed shaitan (devil). The evil ones heavily populate Inteqam — why else would

there be revenge? Meenakshi Seshadri is the tearful Sita, providing the purely decorative dance and song numbers: Anil Kapoor plays the honest taxi driver Vikram; Sunny Deol is the tough Birju and Kimi Katkar plays Chandai. Mind you, Kimi's performance is no reflection of the mood in director Raj Kumar Kohli's *Inteqam*.

Turning point
There is a turning point in cinema in *Aage Moad Hai* (There is a turning point), a rather courageous look at a woman's loneliness.

"We met, we shared and now it is time to part," he tells Uma. She accepts the parting. But there is a fatal resignation, a hopelessness and a poignancy in her acceptance. Widowed, Uma makes the best of life, builds a successful career, and a comfortable home and cares for an adolescent daughter but life without her husband is not that easy, especially when a woman is young. A bitter reality.

Only when the film focuses on growing up does it scrape the surface of being a single parent, parenting and adolescence. The concern, it seems, is "middle-class morality" and social hypocrisy.

As cinematic debate it is incomplete; as a film trying to break the mold it is worth a look, if you like movies with a theme, and don't mind the rather jaded, dull and slow pace of such films. *Aage Moad Hai* is a film by Ravi Mishra, starring all unknown artists — Rekha Sahay, Raja Bundela, Ravi Mishra and Afshan Khan.

The above films are by courtesy of *Ahli Video*, Main St., Farwanhya. Tel: 4712800.



Anil Kapoor and Kimi Katkar: In a romantic mood



Sunny Deol: playing tough

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum

DAILY: 5 pm onwards: natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.

Islamic Arts Museum

SAT-THURS: 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Tareq Rajab Museum

SAT-THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House

SAT-THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts: rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Indian Art Show

UNTIL DEC. 15: Richness in Spirit is the title of an exhibition of Indian contemporary art. Figurative art by 30 painters is on show at the Kuwait National Museum, daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm.

Boushahri Gallery

PHOTO exhibition entitled "Seen from Afar" at Boushahri Gallery. Black and white portraits of people around the world and famous artists are shown by German photographer Heinz G. Melusch. Open from 9 am to 12 noon; 5-8 pm.

Painting Exhibition

UNTIL NOV. 30: Kuwaiti artist Fadel Al Abbar is showing a collection of modern art paintings at the Kuwait National Museum; open during museum hours.

Ghadir Gallery

UNTIL DEC 31: Paintings of Matthew Digby Wyatt (1820-1877) and antiques will be shown at the Ghadir Gallery, Sabia Complex. The show will be open from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4-8.30 pm.

CINEMA

Aspects of Modern Soviet Cinema

TODAY'S film, listed below, will be screened at 7.30 pm at the Chambers of Commerce and Industry auditorium.

NOV 27: "Weirdo", starring Christina Orbakaitis, Yury Nikulin; directed by Rolan Bykov.

British Council
NOV 30 (6 pm); Dec 1 (10.30 am): A feature film for children *Fern, The Red Deer*. Will be shown at the British Council, Mansouriya.

DEC 3/4: This month's feature film "The Third Man", winner of the Grand Prix (Best Feature Film) International Film Festival, stylish thriller set in Vienna, with a typically seedy post-war plot. All the performances are good, with Trevor Howard and Orson Welles in the best roles.

Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512/2533204.

LECTURE

British Council
NOV 27-29: A talk on education in Scotland will be given each evening on undergraduate and postgraduate study during a four-day promotion of Scottish universities and polytechnics at the British Council: 2 Al Arabi St., Mansouriya. Open from 9 am to 12.30 pm; 5-8 pm.

SOCIAL

Daniella
ALL Danes are invited to the annual children's party on Dec 16, 3 pm, at the Gazelle Club.

For reservations phone Marianne — 3710214 ext. 29; Lizzy — 3710478 before Dec 5.

German-Speaking Cultural Association
DEC 1, 3 pm, Dec 2, 5 pm: The annual Christmas bazaar will be held on Thursday and Friday at the Hilton Hotel, Old Failaka Room. Everyone is welcome.

Sixties Night
DEC 8: Sixties night dinner-

dance party will be held, organised by the Sounds Great group. Disco and live music — all of the sixties era. The Jukebox Band will be in attendance. Prize for best-dressed couple, best-dressed male and best-dressed female in sixties "gear". For details ring Ken Winston — 5740256/7; or Linda Elliott — 5383149.

Kapilku-Flasnik Elections

DEC 9: General meeting and election of 1989 Kapilku-Flasnik officers will be held at 1 pm, Philippines Embassy. Candidates will be nominated on the same day. All Filipinos are requested to attend.

MUSIC

Filipino Song Festival

DEC 2: The Kapisanang Pilipino sa Kuwait will stage their third annual song festival at 4 pm. The venue will be announced later. All Filipinos are welcome.

Upasana

DEC 8: Upasana presents musical evening at IAC. Old songs from Malayalam, Hindi and other regional Indian languages will be presented.

Eton College Choir

DEC 20: 8 pm. Kuwait Hilton Hotel presents the Eton College Choir. They will be performing for the first time in Kuwait. For reservations contact the hotel ext. 8006/8007.

HOTELS

At the Kuwait Plaza
FILIPINO Night held every Sunday from 7 to 9.30 pm.

At Dallah coffee shop: buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner; also set menu; mini-business lunch. International Food Arcade: 4 to 10 pm; ice cream festival: light snacks served from 10.00 am to 11.00 pm.

Bosphorus Restaurant: Turkish cuisine, a la carte; lunch and dinner daily except Saturdays.

Marco Polo Restaurant: Italian food, live music and at night candlelight dinner.

At the Continental
Gardenia: 7 am to midnight; buffets featuring Arabic, Continental and Indian food. Special buffet for Thursday dinner and Friday lunch.

Darbar: daily Indian lunch buffet, except Friday; a la carte dinner.

At the Meridien
VERSAILLES: grilled seafood, meat or fish fondue featured, lunch and dinner.

Caramba: Mexican Night is held every Sunday at La Brasserie. Buffet features traditional "south of the border" specialties including tacos, tortillas and refried beans, plus live mariachis music.

At the Sheraton
RICCARDO'S: Italian cuisine; music by the Sienna's Duo. Lunch and dinner, daily. Closed on Fridays.

Al Hambra: Sundays: Lebanese cuisine; Wednesdays: seafood night; Fridays: buffet brunch. Entertainment by the Marcus Band provide live entertainment.

Hunt Room: lunch and dinner rest., specialises in meat and fish dishes.

Le Tarbouche: daily lunch and dinner buffet featuring Arab cuisine. Thursdays: Arab world specialties; Fridays: buffet lunch and dinner.

Coffee Shop: international cuisine and daily specials; ideal for casual or business meeting.

At the Ramada
LE MIRAGE Night Club: Thursday night BBQ, full buffet; music by Al Arzz Band.

Al Bender Coffee Shop: Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6 am to midnight; a la carte available.

Al Gandouf Grill Garden: 7 pm to midnight, features a selection of grilled specialties.

Open Garden: 7 pm to midnight; a selection of teas, coffees, and juices; Arguilla water pipe available; videos shown on large screen every day.

Fish and Chips Shop: 4 pm to 11 pm.

Take away counter: 4 pm to 11 pm. Arabic sandwiches and snacks.

At Messiah Beach
MUBARAKIYAH Restaurant: open 24 hours, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks. Sundays: Ladies Day; Mondays: birthday special; Fridays: special buffet "a go go".

A "Healthy Eating" corner has been set up, to coincide with the Nutrition Week organised by the Ministry of Health.

At the Hilton
La Palma: Musical luncheon on Fridays for family and friends from noon to 3 pm. Buffet features a variety of hot and cold Arab and Continental dishes.

Failaka: daily speciality menu and chef's recommendation for lunch and dinner, except Fridays.

SPORTS

UG Volleyball Tournament

DEC 9: The United Goans Centre will hold their first volleyball tournament at Al Sour Ground. Last date for entries: Nov 30. For details contact Tony — 2612024.

KOSA Meeting

DEC 19: KOSA — Kuwait Offshore Sailing Association — will hold its annual general meeting at 7 pm at the Shaab Yacht Club. All members are requested to attend.

PBAK pre-Christmas

DEC 21, 8 pm, Dec 22, 6 pm: Second pre-Christmas bowling games. Fun games include moonlight, nine-pin strike and low score. The tournament is open to all nationalities. Three separate prizes for men and women. Participants will be selected on first come first served basis. Deadline for registration: Dec 18. For details call Sarah Macarimbang — 4843447.

Football Tournament

DEC 23: The Santos Football Centre will hold their seven-a-side football tournament. Draw will be held on the same day. For details call Joe — 2444379; 2437801.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

9.00 Holy Quran
9.10 Good Morning
9.15 Dabdoob Al Musiqar: Cartoon serial
9.45 World News via Satellite
10.00 Quloob Al Baidah: Arabic serial. Starring: Anwar Ismael, Hala Sudqi, Ahmad Marae.
10.45 Good Morning
11.00 Zawal Bil Computer: local Arabic serial, starring Hayat Al Fahad, Ghanem Al Saleh, Ali Al Mufeedi, Hind Kamel.
12.00 News Summary
12.15 Israar Al Bahar: documentary
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 World News via Satellite
4.45 Bambo: cartoons
5.15 Mama Anisa and Children
5.45 Songs
6.00 Islam Wal Insan: historical serial. Starring: Omar Hariri, Zahrat Al Ula, Anwar Ismael, Hala Fakher.
7.00 News Summary
7.20 Music
7.45 Quran and Science
8.30 Good Evening
9.00 News in Arabic
9.55 Makaan Fi Al Qalb: Arabic serial, starring Iliham Shahin.

Don Johnson plays Sunny Crockett in *Miami Vice*, 8.40 pm, KTV 2.

Mustafa Fahmi, Amina Rizk, Hassan Mustafa.
10.45 Qatil Maghaw: Arabic play, featuring Samah Anwar, Hatem Zulfikar, Nadiya Rafiq.
12.00 News Summary
12.05 World News via Satellite
12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

3.55 Holy Quran and Opening
4.02 A recording of the soccer match between Kuwait and the Soviet Union.
5.50 The hexagonal squad
6.43 Obay San: the games children play in Singapore.

7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news.

7.30 Out of This World: "The Faces of Evil." Evie wants to impress Chris and decides to play an older woman.

8.00 News in English

8.40 Miami Vice: "Like a Hurricane." Crockett is not too excited about baby-sitting a fading female singer but he soon finds himself contemplating a walk down the aisle with her.

9.30 In Search Of: The Bermuda Triangle

10.00 You Can't Take It With You: Starring: Harry Morgan. Comedy. Grandpa is charged with spending more time on his plants than with his grandchildren.

10.30 Jake and the Fatman: Starring: William Conrad and E. Penny. An escaped prisoner is reported killed. But the detectives suspect foul play.

11.30 News Summary
11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



Jake and the Fatman, 10.30 pm, KTV 2.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0000 World News
30 In Praise of God
0100 News Summary followed by Globe Theatre
0200 World News
03 News Review
15 Andy Kershaw's World of Music
30 Science in Action
0300 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Good Books
30 Anything Goes
45 Nature Now
0400 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 The Queen's Parliament
45 Words of Faith
45 Recording of the Week
0500 Newsweek
30 With Good Reason
0700 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 The Queen's Parliament
0800 World News
09 Words of Faith
15 Through the Looking Glass
30 Anything Goes
0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Good Books
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
45 Andy Kershaw's World of Music
1000 News Summary followed by With Good Reason
30 The Vintage Chart Show

1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Tech Talk
30 The Ken Bruce Show
1200 Radio Newsworld
15 Back to Square One
45 Sports Roundup
1300 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 The Queen's Parliament
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
45 Reading (Gospel Exploration)
1500 Radio Newsworld
15 Feature
1600 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Through the Looking Glass
30 Tech Talk
45 The World Today
1700 World News
09 Commentary
15 Just a Minute
45 Sports Roundup
1800 Newsweek
30 Multitrack 1: Top 20
1900 Outlook, opening with News Summary
25 Financial News
30 Network UK
45 Short Story
2000 World News
09 The World Today
25 Words of Faith
30 The Vintage Chart Show
2100 News Summary followed by Sports Roundup
15 Europe's World
30 Sports International
2200 Newsweek
2300 World News
09 Commentary
15 The Learning World
30 Multitrack 1: Top 20
ALL TIMES GMT

FM Services

0800 Easy Listening
0830 News
0840 Easy Listening
1000 Songs and Music
1300 Easy Listening
1330 News
1400 Classical Music
1600 Easy Listening
1700 Latin American Hour
1800 Pops
1900 Helter Skelter
2000 Pops
2130 Pops
2145 Pops
2200 Jazz Sound
2300 Easy Listening
2400 Instrumental Music
0200 Closedown

English

Morning
0800 Opening
0802 Songs and Music
0805 Science Journal
0830 News
0840 Songs and Music
0845 Daily Programme
0900 Songs and Music
0915 Writers and Their Works
0930 Radio Magazine Supplement
1000 Our Press Today
1005 Songs and Music
1100 Closedown
1-30 News on FM Service

Evening
2100 Opening
2102 Bits and Bytes
2130 News
2145 Point of View
2155 Songs and Music

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Malaf Samiya Sharawi (Arabic)
Starring: Nadia Al Jundi, Kamal Shinnawi
Al Hambra
New Delhi (Malayalam)
Starring: Mammootty, Sumalatha, Urvasi, Suresh Gopi
Drive-In
Al Tahaddi (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obaid, Farid Shawi, Farouk Fishawi
Al Firdous
Be Rahim (Hindi)
Starring: Sunjay Dutt, Amrita Singh, Rab Babbar, Dimple Kapadia
Fahadhel Open-Air
Professor Fayezal (Hindi)
Al Fahadhel
Man Hunt

Al Sahmiya
Kuwait National Theatre Performance
Al Jahra
Dragon Force
Granada
Vigilante
Salahkhat
Captain of Pilgrim
Al Jebel
New Delhi (Malayalam)
Ahmed Drive-In
Steel Dawn

PRAYERS

Fajr	5.00 am
Zuhr	11.36
Asr	2.30 pm
Maghreb	4.49
Isha	6.11

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Cairo Pharmacy
Tukhaim Bldg., Fahad Al Salem St.
Al Moji Pharmacy
Moji Bldg., Abdullah Al Mubarak St.
Hawalli and Negra
Al Nasser Pharmacy
Tunis St.
Salmiya and Rumaythiya
Dena Pharmacy
Shua Al Sabah Bldg., Amman St.
Fahadhel and Ahmadi
Al Wafa Pharmacy
Dabbous Palace, Dabbous St., F'heel
Khaitan
Al Khaitan Pharmacy
Ibrahim Bin Adham St.
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Market

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WHEN you have got a thing where you want it, it is a good thing to leave it where it is — Sir Winston Churchill, British statesman (1874-1965).

Bangladesh now prays for rain

By Anis Ahmed

DHAKA, (Reuters): Bangladesh, waist-deep in water only two months ago, is now praying for rain.

Rain-fed floods killed thousands of people and devastated the country's economy in the worst flooding in the country's history. About half of Bangladesh was submerged during August and September.

But now, thirsty people all over the poverty-stricken country wait sadly for the rains to return. The coastal areas have been the hardest hit.

"We are running out of water because there has been little rain," said Subodh Bhandari, a farmer in the coastal village of Haludbuma, 250 miles (400 km) southwest of Dhaka.

He said water available from surface sources was full of salt. Tube wells cannot operate because of heavy sandpiles under the earth, leaving rain as the main source of supply.

Collect
Villagers usually collect rain-water for drinking and keep it for months in huge mud containers under the earth.

The floods destroyed most of the containers.

"Our woes have increased as only little rain fell since the floods receded. No rain means no water to drink," Bhandari said.

Road links to most coastal villages are so bad that carrying water from nearby towns is impossible. People often supply relatives with water in small plastic cans.

"But is it possible to bottle-feed thousands of people who need millions of gallons of water every day?" asked another Haludbuma villager.

One source of relief are the many coconuts that grow along the shore of the Bay of Bengal. People use them to quench thirst and meet other emergencies.

Even if it did rain, collecting rainwater is not that easy. As clouds gather in the sky, people spread large plastic sheets or thick cloths fixed to bamboo or iron poles. Rocks below give the sheets a bowl shape.

Critics want Botha to make bold moves

By David Cray

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, (AP): President P.W. Botha's decision to spare the lives of the Sharpeville six earned him rare praise from around the world, but his critics at home want further proof of his goodwill.

Several leading human-rights activists on Thursday demanded the abolition of capital punishment. Other government opponents, suggesting Botha acted out of expediency, called for him to dismantle apartheid and free political prisoners such as Nelson Mandela.

Across the political spectrum, there was agreement that Botha made a politically astute move on Wednesday, when he commuted the death sentences of 13 people. These included four white policemen convicted of killing non-whites, as well as the Sharpeville six — five black men and a woman convicted of complicity in the mob killing of a black official during 1984 rent riots.

Clemency
Conservative whites had been campaigning on behalf of the convicted policemen, while anti-apartheid groups here and abroad, as well as numerous foreign governments, sought clemency for the Sharpeville six. With the reprieves, Botha managed to satisfy both lobbies.

Brian Currin, director of South Africa's Lawyers for Human Rights Organisation, said the policemen and the Sharpeville six apparently were spared because of the political pressure.

"The arbitrariness of the selection of those reprieved is frightening," he said. "Why should others, who do not become political play balls, be less fortunate?"

Currin commented after five convicted murderers were hanged at dawn on Thursday. Just prior to the hangings, two other condemned men were granted stays of execution so clemency petitions could be considered.

So far this year, 115 people, three of them whites, have been

executed, while 49 death row prisoners have been reprieved by Botha, the prison service said. More than 200 still face execution.

Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, winner of the 1984 Nobel peace prize, was among those urging an end to all hangings. He welcomes the reprieves.

Welcome

Another activist clergyman, the Rev. Stanley Mogoba, president of South Africa's Methodist Church, termed the reprieves "one of the best Christmas presents I can think of."

"Botha has illustrated in this statesman-like act of reprieve, that he too understands the Christian message of peace and goodwill," Mogoba said. "I call on him to extend this understanding to others, in different ways, such as releasing political prisoners like Mandela ... and dismantling the heretical structures that prop up apartheid," Mogoba added.

Prakash Diar, lawyer for the Sharpeville six, was bitter that Botha gave his clients long prison terms — 18 to 25 years — rather than freeing them outright.

Two of his clients "believe that they would be better off if they hanged rather than spending such long times in prison," Diar said.

Murder

The Argus, a Cape Town newspaper, termed the reprieves "an act of political expediency." It questioned whether "premeditated, cold-blooded murder" by policemen should be equated with a crime committed "in the heat of a public upheaval."

One of the most negative reactions came from an official of the South-West African People's Organisation, the leftist guerrilla movement waging a Bush war to end South African rule over South-West Africa, also known as Namibia.

Nayuala Kapuka, SWAPO's chief representative in Zimbabwe, called the reprieves a "hoodwinking play" to fool the international community.

Dealing with America on Mideast issue

By Raphael Calls

WASHINGTON, (KUNA): While awaiting changes in America's Mideast policy that might never materialize, recent events make it clear that the Arabs urgently need to reassess their own tactics and strategy when dealing with the United States.

This need was highlighted, in part, by the negative American reaction to the far-reaching, daring decisions adopted by the Palestine National Council on Nov 15.

Traditionally, the Arab reaction to Washington's staunch pro-Israeli positions has been manifested in one of two ways. Either they indicate that they have given up on America, convincing themselves there is nothing more they can do to stem the anti-Arab tide. Or they involve themselves in purely rhetorical exercises by condemning everything American while still conducting business as usual with this superpower.

In fact, the Arab might find it useful to try the "American way" of doing things, which has proved it works in America. The message that there is another side to the Mideast debate should be carried straight to the millions of common people of the "heartland" states of the south and Midwest, to the factory workers of the industrial north, to the easygoing folk of the western states, to the sympathetic blacks of the inner cities.

Struggle
There is no doubt it will be an uphill struggle, but changes in American public opinion could be the result and this could then be used to persuade the US Congress-elect that the "grass roots level" — and the US government — alter their one-sided policies. Already, a recent Los Angeles

Times poll showed that the American public was much more sympathetic to the establishment of a Palestinian state than the voting records of their Congressmen and the postures of their government would suggest.

The strength and power of American public opinion is often talked about in the Arab world but never really understood. Often it is totally ignored, seen as an abstract entity beyond the Arab's reach. As experience has repeatedly proved, there is no more effective tool to change American perceptions or American policies.

Waging the battle for American public opinion is not difficult to implement, needing only time and resources. The Arabs have both in abundance.

Furthermore, Israel has succeeded in using the so-called Jewish lobby to advantage as a channel to Washington, why cannot the Arabs in like fashion use Arab-Americans as their own entry to the American mind or the American vote?

Guidance
The Arabs, and specifically the Palestinians have a ready source for guidance, the new generation of Arab-Americans. After many years of lying dormant they realize they can no longer sit idly by.

It may have escaped the attention of some Arabs and others may choose to ignore it: still the new leadership of Arab-Americans is slowly forging a counterweight to the fearsome Israeli lobby that is becoming increasingly effective.

In just a few years, Arab-Americans have organized themselves, at the grassroots, building

their influence from the lowest level of government—in municipal and local political and judicial elections.

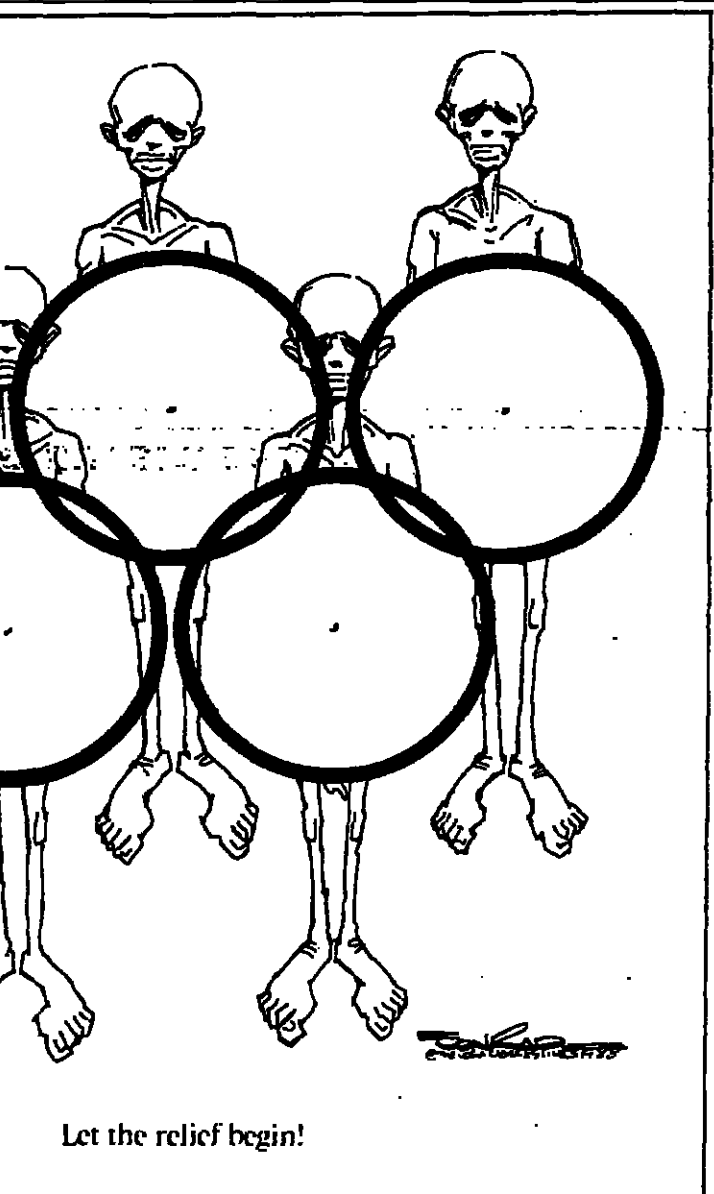
They hope, with some justification, that one day they will be able to transfer their mounting strength and influence to higher office: governorships, more congressional elections, and even the presidency itself. Once through "the door" of the political process, the sky is the limit, the ambitious Arab-American leaders believe.

Planning
The keywords in this Arab-American approach is "activism," "involvement," and careful planning. Nothing is left to chance. Every move is calculated and fits within a short-term and long-term plan, officials of these groups say.

One major organization, the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) has made some major inroads in recent years. It has waged some successful battles to wipe out the negative stereotypical image of the Arabs in America, standing up to some of the big conglomerates in the process.

During the last eleven months of the intifadah, ADC has sent to occupied Palestine hundreds of ordinary Americans — clergy, doctors, engineers, teachers, human rights activists, social workers to witness firsthand the atrocities being committed by Israel against the Palestinians.

Each has come back a reformed person, to speak out in public in their own small communities and eager to expose the Israeli actions. Each has become a lobbying unit on his or her own within their small communities.



Let the relief begin!

By Rory Channing

NAIROBI, (Reuters): Refugees fleeing famine and civil war in Africa make headlines, but hunger also takes a grim, if less visible, toll in the shanty towns, slums and remote peasant smallholdings of the world's poorest continent.

As night falls nearly 100 million people, one in every five of the population, go to sleep without full bellies in sub-Saharan Africa.

Every fifth child in the region dies before his fifth birthday for want of better diet, immunisation and health care.

"Hunger in Africa is a huge, intractable problem," the World Bank said in a report released here recently urging new action to ease Africa's hunger pangs.

Yet, it cautions, it will take many years to dent the problem, which is aggravated by the hefty foreign debt, poverty, war and crop damage caused in turn by drought, floods and locust plagues.

Short-cuts

"There are no quick fixes, no easy answers, no simple short-cuts," the bank said in its report called "The Challenge of Hunger in Africa — A Call to Action."

It proposed concerted efforts on national programmes to promote food security, and priority for projects and policies that raise the meagre incomes of the hungry and curb swings in food prices and supplies.

It also urged steps to strengthen institutional management to tackle the problem, better use of food aid and more systematic

Hunger: Africa's intractable problem

efforts to identify people at risk. None of these ideas is new, noted World Bank President Barber Conable in the report's foreword.

"What is new is that this report calls for a partnership to be formed among donors, non-governmental organisations and African governments to support comprehensive policies and programmes for food security," he declared.

Partnership
World Bank figures paint a grim picture of the struggle for survival in countries south of the Sahara:

● Only one-quarter of people living in the countryside, which is home to seven-tenths of Africans, and less than two-thirds of those in the towns and cities, have safe drinking water.

● In 1981, even before African economies took a marked turn for the worse, there was only one doctor for every 23,000 people compared with one for every 550 in industrialised nations.

● Individual incomes have slumped by one-fifth in the 1980s.

● For nearly 20 years food production has lagged behind the growth of sub-Saharan Africa's rapidly swelling population, currently 500 million people and expected to exceed 700 million by the turn of the century.

To close the gap the region would have to boost food output

by four per cent a year, or double what it has managed recently.

"At no time in history has any group of nations faced the challenge of increasing incomes and achieving food security in a situation of such rapid population growth," the review said. The real problem, it said, is that African countries have failed to grow enough food or to generate enough revenue to buy supplies from the well-stocked world market, and that poor households can't afford to buy or produce adequate food.

More than half the people in sub-Saharan Africa who can't obtain or afford enough food live in seven countries — Ethiopia, Zaire, Uganda, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania and Kenya.

In the first four of these countries, along with Chad, Zambia and Somalia, more than four-tenths of the populace does not get enough to eat.

The bank diagnoses the deficiency as sometimes chronic and sometimes transitory.

Diet

Symptoms of the former are a persistently inadequate diet resulting from an inability to get food by any means — such as producing, buying, bartering or foraging.

The latter reflects a temporary squeeze on a household's access to food because of unaffordable prices, or erratic output or income.

Benazir yet to have a crack at the job, but looks prime-ministerial

By Oliver Wates

ISLAMABAD, (Reuters): A definite decision is still apparently 10 days away, but Benazir Bhutto is looking more and more like prime minister-elect of Pakistan.

The 35-year-old opposition leader has begun to appear on state-run television, which virtually ignored her during the 11-year rule of the late President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

At airports she now gets VIP treatment, with a government limousine to collect her from the privileged persons' lounge.

The world news media splash reports of her partial victory in last week's elections and she features on the cover of Asian editions of both the US magazines Time and Newsweek.

Pressure

On Friday US Ambassador Robert Oakley called on her for more than an hour at the Islamabad House where she is staying. Chinese envoy Tian Ding paid his respects on Wednesday.

But acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has stoutly resisted pressure from her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) to name her prime minister immediately.

Wooling

Minor party leader Abdus Sattar Niazi told reporters after meeting Ishaq Khan on Thursday that he did not expect the president to make the appointment until after the new parliament elects its speaker on Dec 7.

And the rival Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) says it still hopes to form a coalition with the independents and small parties who hold the balance in the National Assembly.

"The IDA is not out of the race yet, the horse-trading goes on."



Benazir Bhutto

Alliance spokesman Muraza Pooya commented on Friday.

The PPP won 45 per cent of the Muslim seats at stake on Nov 16. Both sides have been wooing the independent and small party deputies to try to form a majority in the House.

Pakistan's Western allies feel Benazir should be allowed to form a government and some have let Ishaq Khan know their views, according to diplomatic sources.

The military, whose support is essential for Benazir, have merely reiterated their pledge to respect the results of the election, the first fought by parties since 1977.

But Army chief General Mirza Aslam Beg had two-and-a-half hours of talks with Benazir, who would be the first woman elected to govern a Muslim nation. Neither made the details public.

Some diplomats and political analysts detect a widespread feeling in the armed forces and the establishment that Benazir should be given a chance.

own... If the Arabs elect to throw their heavy but belated weight through Arab-Americans, there are many totally legal approaches they can adopt to enter the fray.

They can generously endow the few struggling Arab Political Action Committees (PACs) whose lifeblood is money. In the last decade, the PAC system has proved a key tool in getting people elected or removed.

There are more than 80 pro-Israeli PACs in existence, compared to only eight or nine pro-Arab PACs. The contributions to the latter have been minuscule compared to those made to the pro-Israeli PACs.

Assist
On a more modest scale, Arabs can assist the many struggling Arab-American publications, radio and television stations to improve — let alone survive — by buying advertising space in them.

That is one effective way pro-Israeli companies have penetrated the American media, helping many of them to develop and prosper. That is where the public opinion battle can be won in America.

It still seems unbelievable that the Arabs have an Arab League Office in Washington — manned by dynamic and active people — but so woefully budgeted its salaried staff can barely make ends meet. Recently, instead of expanding its operations in the United States, all League offices were closed down in major American cities because of budgetary problems. The League's only monthly magazine had to be halted for lack of funds.

Consensus
But there is a consensus here that Arab-Americans need every kind of support they can muster both from the community in the United States and from the Arab countries. It involves both moral and financial support.

The same community leader comments, "we can provide the foot soldiers, do the work, lobby, build up support at grassroots level, and wipe out the terrible stereotypical image of the Arabs in America. But we need help to accomplish these objectives. Bluntly, the Arab world is rich and the barely half-dozen Arab American groups are poor. The direction should seem obvious. Lobbying needs money and we simply cannot do it on our

Option
But doubts remain among some Islamabad diplomats. They say that if Ishaq Khan nominated IDA leader Nawaz Sharif, he might be able to lure enough independents and small parties with offers of government posts and patronage to win a vote of confidence in the allotted 60 days.

They also doubt the willingness of the military to hand over power to the daughter of the man they overthrew in 1977, the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

The arithmetic in the 237-seat National Assembly strongly favours the PPP. It won 93 Muslim seats — one on a late recount — to the IDA's 55. One independent announced he was joining the PPP and three have publicly offered their support.

Non-Muslim minorities elected 10 deputies, most of whom lean towards the PPP. Two by-elections are pending and elected members choose another 20 women deputies on a proportional basis.

Coalition
The fourth biggest party, the Jamiat-i-Ulema Islami, which won seven seats, said on Thursday it would not join either main contender in a coalition but would sit in opposition.

Benazir aides say they believed the IDA was aiming more at forming a provincial government in Punjab, the largest of Pakistan's four provinces. It won 108 seats there in provincial elections also held last week to the PPP's 94.

Sharif, who still holds the post of Punjab chief minister, he was given by Zia, said on Thursday he had won the support of 136 deputies, a clear majority in the Punjab assembly.

The PPP casts doubt on the figure and political analysts say that if Benazir becomes prime minister, her power of patronage would greatly help the PPP to put together a coalition administration in Punjab province as well.

"When the central government is formed (by the PPP), the entire strength of the IDA will crack. There will be a rush to join the People's Party," PPP Punjab President Rana Shaukat Ali told reporters.

Meanwhile Benazir still has no functioning office in the capital. She, and her mother Nusrat, are holding court to party leaders, PPP stalwarts returning from exile abroad, and ambassadors at the house of an Islamabad dentist.

It has one telephone and no typewriter and aides borrow pens from visiting journalists.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1520 — Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan reaches Pacific Ocean after passing through South American strait now bearing his name.

1821 — Panama declares itself independent of Spain and joins Republic of Colombia.

1885 — British forces occupy Mandalay in Burma.

1897 — Germany occupies Kiaochow in northern China, where German missionaries were slain.

1905 — Sinn Féin party is founded in Dublin, Ireland.

1919 — Lady Astor is elected first woman member of Britain's parliament.

1922 — Six former ministers of Greece are executed.

1937 — General Francisco Franco begins naval blockade of Spanish coast.

1938 — Iraq severs relations with France.

1942 — Almost 500 people perish in fire that destroys Cocoanut Grove nightclub in Boston, Massachusetts.

1960 — Mauritania becomes independent Islamic Republic.

1961 — UN General Assembly calls for independence for remaining colonial peoples.

1971 — Jordan's Prime Minister Wasfi Tell is assassinated while attending an Arab conference in Cairo, Egypt.

1973 — Arab leaders end summit meeting in Algeria with announcement of oil embargoes against Portugal, Rhodesia and South Africa.

1977 — Rhodesia announces at least 1,200 deaths in its recent raids against black nationalist guerrillas across border in Mozambique.

1987 — Pilot reports smoke in cockpit, then South African Airways jet plane with 159 people aboard crashes in Indian Ocean near Mauritius.

Genetic material unique to every individual

DNA fingerprinting: nailing crime

By Marina Shamoon

BAKERY worker Colin Pitchfork nearly got away with murder.

He raped and murdered 15-year-old Lynda Mann in 1983 and Dawn Ashworth in 1986 in the same area of Leicestershire, UK. But police had no clues connecting Pitchfork to the crimes.

A youth named Richard Buckland, 17, was charged and appeared in court for Dawn's murder. But a revolutionary test called DNA fingerprinting proved he was not the beast.

Police then began a mass screening of 5,000 men in the Narborough area of Leicester, inviting them to give blood samples to undergo the same test.

Pitchfork, aged 27, fearing that police had a deadly weapon which would incriminate him, pestered workmates to stand in for him. He reasoned that because he had two convictions for indecent exposure, he was a prime target for police to "fit him up."

He managed to persuade Ian Kelly, 23, to take the blood test for him. He even asked Kelly to practise his signature.

The plan worked. And for eight months, Pitchfork, from the village of Littlethorpe in the Narborough area, roamed the streets of the district, safe in the knowledge that he had escaped detection.

Indiscretion

But Kelly's indiscretion was to be Pitchfork's downfall. For he told fellow workers in a pub how he himself had taken the test for Pitchfork — and the conversation was overheard and reported to the police.

If it had not been for DNA genetic fingerprinting, Pitchfork might still have been free today. But he is where he belongs: in jail serving two life sentences for the murders, 10 years each for the rapes, and three years for conspiracy.

The DNA fingerprinting technique not only showed conclusively who the murderer was but also absolved an

Research Professor Alec Jeffreys discovered by chance that everyone has their own unique gene pattern in body cells. His discovery has caused a revolution — in criminal work, immigration cases and paternity suits.



A technician marking the DNA bands of parents and children.

innocent man.

Other headline-making cases which have been solved by this method are that of the rapist Robert Melias who laughed as he forced himself on a 43-year-old police victim. DNA fingerprinting showed that there was only a four-million-to-one

chance of him being innocent. The case made history by genetic fingerprinting.

Then there is the recent case of the "Babe in the Wood" rapist in which Jordanian student Wael Kabarihi raped 14-year-old schoolgirl Julie Fletcher. Julie had travelled from her

home in Durham to see her television heart-throb Peter Howitt in the pantomime Babes in the Wood at the London Palladium.

Afterwards, she lost her way in the busy streets and Kabarihi found her crying. He offered to help, but instead took her to his girlfriend's vacant flat where he raped her.

At the trial he insisted sex didn't take place but DNA fingerprinting proved he was guilty.

Another violent rapist, Colin Rooome, 31, callously attacked a young health worker and raped her. He was convicted when genetic fingerprinting established that the chances of the attack not being committed by Rooome were 700,000 to one.

With such spectacular results, it is not surprising that forensic scientists are hailing DNA fingerprinting as the greatest breakthrough since the discovery of fingerprinting itself in 1901.

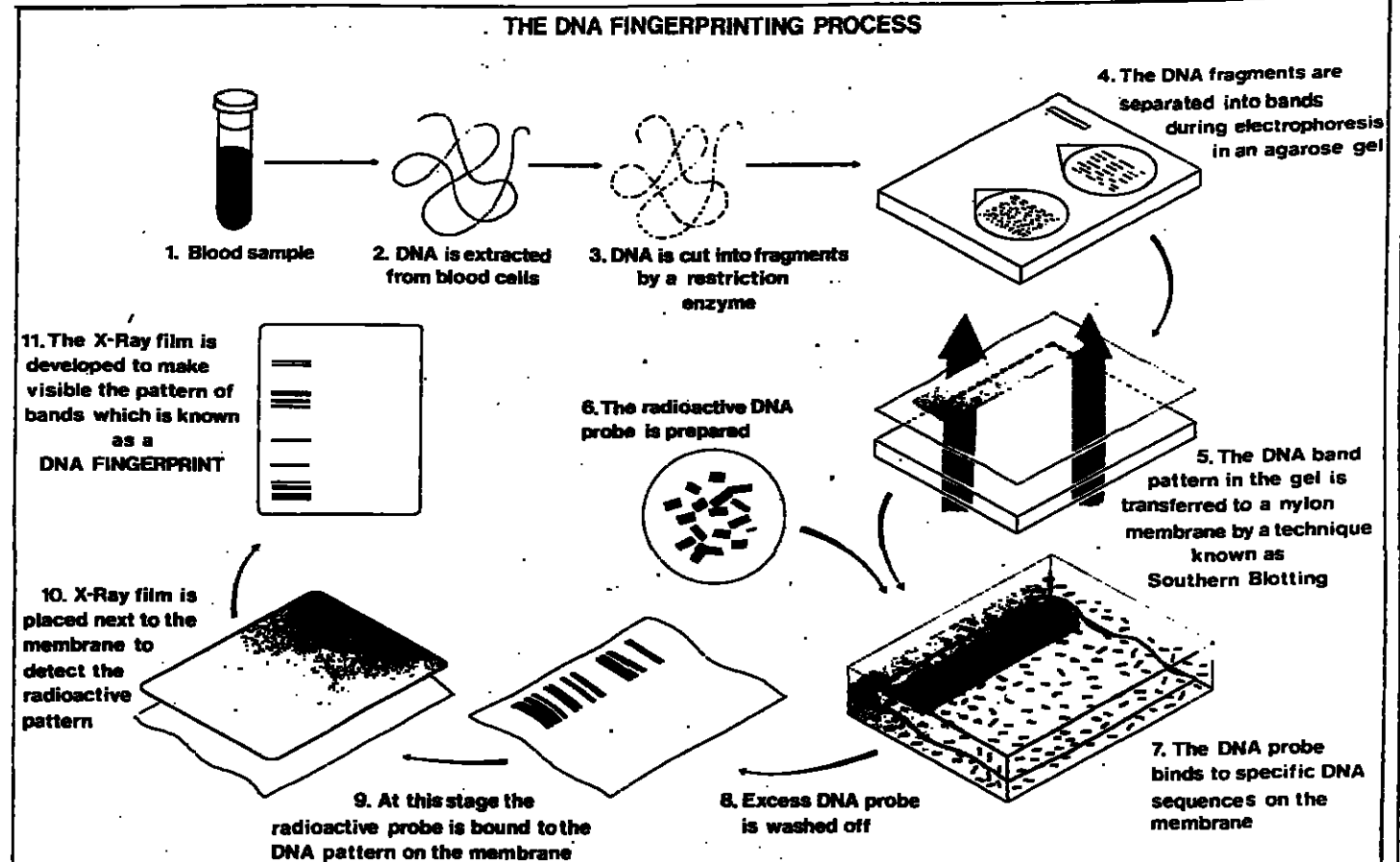
The technique was pioneered by Prof. Alec Jeffreys, a Lister Institute Research fellow at Leicester University. He was carrying out other research when he discovered by chance that everyone has a unique genetic pattern.

DNA — Deoxyribonucleic acid — is the genetic material contained in all living cells, except red blood cells, and is as unique to every individual as their actual fingerprint except in identical twins. Hence the name.

Evidence

DNA determines, for example, the colour of the skin, hair, eyes and other characteristics. It can be extracted from blood, semen, hair roots and other body tissues that contain DNA.

Ron Yaxley, sales and marketing manager at the ICI subsidiary Cellmark Diagnostics in Abingdon, Oxfordshire, where DNA fingerprinting tests are carried out, says: "Everyone has a unique DNA pattern and the chances of two people, unless they are identical twins, having the same pattern is estimated at a quadrillion to one."



"Therefore, if the forensic evidence such as a semen sample in a rape case is taken, and a blood sample from the suspect is tested, the pattern either matches or it doesn't. It is conclusive."

As well as identifying or eliminating crime suspects, DNA fingerprinting has several other applications too. It is used in immigration matters, in confirming animal pedigrees, and to resolve civil paternity disputes.

Yaxley says: "It is regarded as the definitive paternity test. Up until now, all that the standard blood tests could show was that a particular man wasn't the father. So if the child had not inherited certain blood group genes from the man who was alleged to be the father, you could only prove that he was not the father, you could never say categorically that he was."

Every child inherits half its genes from the father and half from the mother. It is a fact that a child shares 17 or 18 bands with its mother and the same number with the father. Unrelated people share only

three or four bands.

Since the test became commercially available at the laboratory in Abingdon in June last year, hundreds of paternity cases have been resolved.

One of the most famous was that involving policeman Jim O'Dowd of Patrick, Glasgow. He denied he was the father of Patricia Conlon's two-year-old twins Joseph and Rosaleen. But he was nailed by DNA genetic fingerprinting.

It was estimated that the chances of O'Dowd and Patricia not being the twins' parents were at least 500 million to one in Joseph's case and eight million to one in the case of Rosaleen.

Paternity cases make up the biggest category in Cellmark Diagnostics' cases. The second is immigration cases where the relationship between a sponsor in Britain and the rest of the family in the Indian subcontinent, mainly in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, has to be proved.

People can pay for tests if they or their families have been

refused entry into Britain. It costs £112 plus VAT for each blood sample test.

Cellmark Diagnostics has handled 16,000 cases since they started in October and the numbers are increasing by the month. The parent company ICI has the worldwide rights. At present they carry out forensic tests for the police but they are soon to lease the technology to forensic laboratories.

Forensic evidence is collected and stored at low temperature to preserve it and the fridges at the laboratory in Abingdon are overflowing with samples.

Abroad Cellmark even receive requests from abroad. In one case, lawyers defending French woman Simone Weber, accused of killing her ex-lover Bernard Hettier, have asked the laboratory to help prove her innocence.

In this three-year-old crime of passion, Weber is alleged to have hacked her ex-lover's body into pieces using a tile cutter. Yaxley says: "The torso of a

body was found floating in the River Marne, near Paris, with a breeze block tied to it. On the block were splashes of blue paint, which French police matched with that from Weber's home.

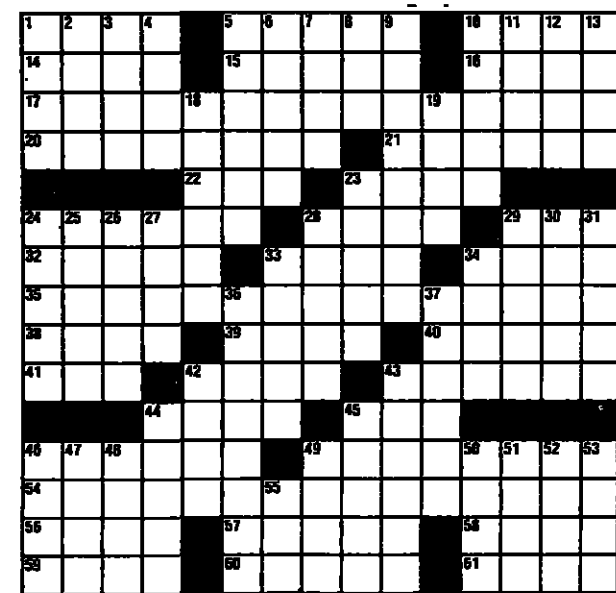
"We have written back saying that we may be able to help, but it depends on the state the exhumed body is in."

"If it is possible to take a good DNA sample then we could compare it with samples from Hettier's two daughters and so determine whether it was part of his body in the river or not."

Although the tests can exonerate an innocent man, in cases where a person is serving a jail sentence for a crime he did not commit it is impossible when forensic evidence has not been preserved in a good state.

And any woman falsely claiming that a rock star or movie star is the father of her child will have the DNA fingerprinting test to contend with — and any stars who try to wriggle out of their responsibility will be trapped. It is simply the ultimate test.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Vehicles
 - 5 Farmer, at times
 - 10 "Aeneid," for one
 - 14 Samoan port
 - 15 Dishonor
 - 16 Novice
 - 17 Basic necessity
 - 20 Small group of stars
 - 21 Eats away
 - 22 Diminutive suffix
 - 23 Musical measures
 - 24 Cut molars
 - 28 War god
 - 29 "Nervous" — cat
 - 32 Madagascar lemur
 - 33 Diner sign
 - 34 Grouch
 - 35 Basic necessity
 - 38 Enemies
 - 39 Actress Charlotte et al.
 - 40 "Like — out of the blue"
 - 41 "Treasure Island" author's monogram
 - 42 Floor coverings
 - 43 Proclaims loudly
 - 44 Mother Hubbard's quest
 - 45 Mountain pass
 - 46 Ornamental strip
 - 49 Peers, collectively
 - 54 Basic necessity
 - 56 "— of a 1000 Days"
 - 57 Glisten
 - 58 Intend
 - 59 R. E. and Peggy
 - 60 Tooth
- DOWN**
- 1 Degr. in Venice
 - 2 Overseas addresses, for short
 - 3 Disorder
 - 4 Unharmed
 - 5 — Row, London
 - 6 Unpleasantly plump
 - 7 Heat
 - 8 Superlative ending
 - 9 Prepare for "The Mikado"
 - 10 Spirit of a culture
 - 11 — Piper
 - 12 "Dies —"
 - 13 Certain deliveries, for short
 - 18 Corsage favorite
 - 19 Miscues
 - 23 Steamy places
 - 24 Rome's river
 - 25 Enlist
 - 26 Parades
 - 27 Refrain syllables
 - 28 Cobs and pens, e.g.
 - 29 Ann —, Mich.
 - 30 Room, in Rhelms
 - 31 Incites
 - 33 Related on the mother's side
 - 34 Work basket
 - 36 Irish political principle: Var.
 - 37 Suit
 - 42 — Lisa
 - 43 Edge
 - 44 Tarnies
 - 45 Tropical herb
 - 46 Equal, in Marseilles
 - 47 Finished
 - 48 Disappeared
 - 49 Security
 - 50 Neck area
 - 51 Tamarisk
 - 52 Equipment
 - 53 Sea eagles
 - 55 Greek letter

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SAG ACMES AISOR
PROA DRANK PIPE
ACIS DIRTYDOZEN
TANTRUMS LEGEND
GRACE MARE
DAMONE CORNERED
ELYAS SPUNK SALA
CAW ORA GAT
AVAS SLEDS SITE
LAYETTES PAWNED
TORS RETAG
PLATTE DECEMBER
PILLOWTALK PURE
TREE EASEL SLIM
NESIS DITTY LEO

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠83 ♥KQJ52 ♦AQJ3 ♣Q3

Partner opens the bidding with three spades. What action do you take? A.—At this vulnerability, partner should have seven tricks for his preempt. Your hand will certainly develop three, so it might seem that you should raise to game. However, your tricks are slow—you have to force out enemy winners before you can cash them—and the defenders could easily have four tricks first. Pass.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠Q8 ♥A8752 ♦A653 ♣93

Partner opens the bidding with three spades. What action do you take? A.—This hand, in terms of point count, is far weaker than the first example. Here, however, you have the equivalent of three fast tricks—two aces, or the ruffing value in clubs as a full trick. Add these to partner's seven, and you come up with enough to raise to four spades.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠AK3 ♥84 ♦A94 ♣J8632

The bidding has proceeded: South West North East Pass Pass 1 ♥ Pass ?

What do you bid now? A.—We see no reason why anyone should pass a hand that contains three quick tricks, but now you must live with your folly. Since partner might be opening light in third

seat, you should not hang him for it. Bid two no trump.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠K93 ♥J72 ♦Q103 ♠AKQ4

The bidding has proceeded: West North East South 1 ♦ 1 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now? A.—Partner should have fair values for his vulnerable overall, and you have a fine hand with adequate support. Even though your queen of diamonds might not be a working card, we think you are worth a raise to four spades.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠953 ♥Q2 ♦A8763 ♣K54

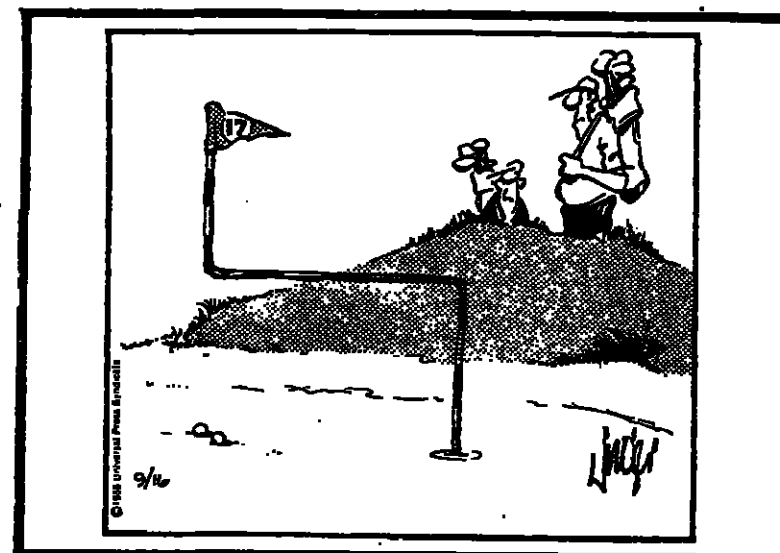
The bidding has proceeded: West North East South 1 ♠ 2 ♥ Pass ?

What action do you take? A.—For a two-level vulnerable overall partner should have at least the equivalent of an opening bid and a good suit, probably six cards long. Thus, your trump support is adequate and you have the values to invite game by raising to three hearts.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠7 ♥Q652 ♦Q954 ♣J652

Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What action do you take? A.—You have a miserable hand made even worse by the fact that you have a singleton in partner's suit. Don't value your shortness as 2 points—it is a liability, not an asset. Pass.



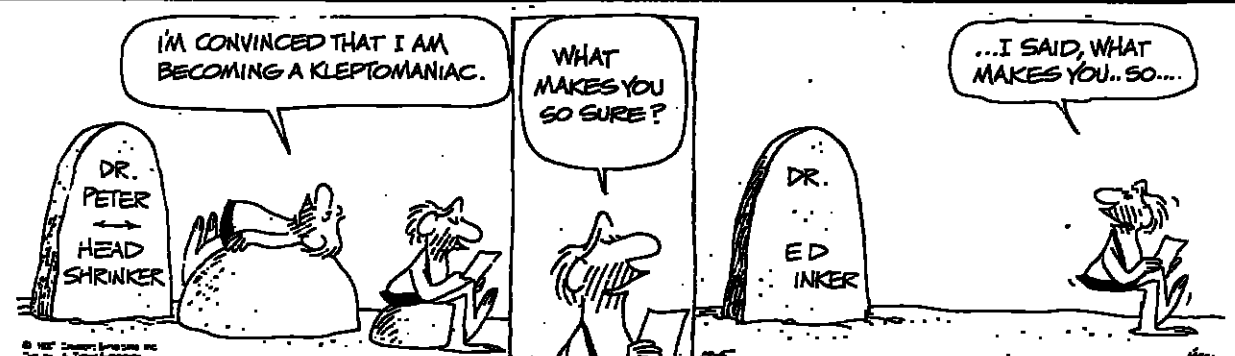
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Grant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

This is going to be rather confusing day for you so take extra care. You should not turn your back on change, instead welcome it. If you think you are too old to learn, you are. Be resilient.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You should not expect some electronic gadget to get rid of all your problems. You should consider an offer or proposal carefully. You will be more likely to have a disagreement. Be less aggressive.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Today you will be able to get more done than of late. You should not rely too much on your powers of persuasion. Give others the benefit of any doubt. Be moderate.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

If someone has been rude to you do not be rude in return. You should stick to what is strictly practical. Make sure you do not allow work to eat too much into your leisure time. Be more reticent.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

The Moon's more positive influence coupled with that of Mars and Mercury will help you to avoid the pitfalls. You must make sure you do not drive faster than you should.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You should take great care to avoid creating confusion. You are liable to get some small matter quite out of proportion. You should try to take pleasure in little and ordinary things. Be courteous.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You will feel rather restless and you should do all you can to calm yourself. Do not allow anything to distract you for long. Make sure you keep within the spending limits you have set yourself. Be magnanimous.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You will not be in the best of moods and should try to keep out of controversial situations. There is no time to lose and your energy is precious too. You should not act on impulse or on the spur of the moment. Be objective.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

Today's influence of the Moon as well as that of Mercury and Mars will help you to do the right thing in the circumstances. You will be able to put your inventiveness to good use.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You will find it somewhat easier to concentrate. Try to rid yourself of resentments and jealousies. Avoid trying to do more than you have time for but do not slacken the pace either. Be affectionate.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You will be able to make better progress than you had first thought possible. Avoid having on too many late nights in succession. Do not lose sight of your objectives. Be reasonable.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will more easily tire and should do all you can to conserve your energies. Do not try to repair anything you are not quite sure about especially if electricity is involved. Ensure that you eat a balanced diet. Be reliable.

HEALTH

Allergy may make you ill... or even dangerous

British allergy specialist Keith Mumby has dealt with some strange cases — the nurse who got drunk on orange juice and the little boy, who became violent after drinking milk. And Dr Mumby believes many common illnesses — and even aggression — can be prevented by a simple change in diet.

By Alex Molloy

THERE is the woman who turned into a nymphomaniac after one sip of vodka. The little boy who grunted and growled like an animal. And the nurse who got drunk on orange juice!

All these are just some of the strange stories from the career of British allergist Doctor Keith Mumby.

Dr Mumby has devoted the last 10 years to helping the victims of allergies, a problem that only recently has been recognised as the cause of many mental and physical illnesses.

He says: "The thing we now have to find out is not why people are allergic to certain things, but why some people are not."

"Allergies are more common than most people think. More than 50 per cent of the population suffer from allergies to some degree. And the most common foods that people are allergic to are milk and wheat."

Dr Mumby believes that allergies can cause an addiction in people that can be as strong as drug dependency. He says: "Certain foods can act as a brain stimulant, making the person feel great for a couple of hours but terrible afterwards."

Reactions

"And this can give birth to a cycle of addiction. The addict craves that food to fight the withdrawal symptoms. I have seen a patient going through withdrawal that is almost the same as that of a heroin addict."

Dr Mumby has also seen some rather bizarre reactions to food and drink. He explains: "One woman in her twenties came to see me because vodka changed her behaviour to an alarming degree. She became a nymphomaniac after just one sip."

"I had to be sure that it was vodka that spurred on her reaction, so we gave her tiny injections of different foods. But sure enough, as soon as she had the vodka she became another woman."

"She became lewd and vulgar and started trying to take her clothes off. When the effects had worn off she felt terrible."

"I am sure that many people who suffer from so-called mental illness really suffer from allergies."

"One case I had was very moving. A little boy aged about six had what the doctors called a deteriorating emotional condition."

"He developed at a normal rate and then it seemed as if he was going backwards. He lost all his power of speech and would grunt and act like a little animal."

"He also became very violent and destructive. His parent's house was smashed up and doctors told them to put him into a home."

"As a last resort they brought him to see me at my clinic in Manchester. When I saw him, his mother said, 'He's got the intelligence of a dog.'"

"I tested him and discovered that he was allergic to both milk and wheat. After cutting them out of his diet, he was almost back to normal in a matter of months."

Case

"Now he is beginning to speak. He saw a child psychiatrist who said he was perfectly normal and now he's about to start school. The last time I saw him he came up to me and shook my hand and said, 'Thank you Dr Mumby, I was so moved I walked into my office and I cried.'"

Another strange case was that of the nurse who did not

drink alcohol, but got drunk on orange juice. Dr Mumby recalls: "This nurse would go out with her friends and only drink orange juice, but she would become more drunk than anyone else. It was just an allergic reaction. The moment she stopped drinking it she was alright."

Dr Mumby has clinics in Manchester and also London's prestigious Harley Street. He is a firm believer that most twentieth century illnesses are caused by allergies. Not all, but many.

He explains: "Wheat and milk are not natural foods for humans. They have only been in our diet for less than 10,000 years and that is not really very long. No creature except humans drink milk beyond infancy."

"If you eat the correct foods you can avoid those that cause allergy and still have enough energy to see you through the day."

"Fresh fruit and vegetables, plus meat and fish, are good things to eat. But you have to detect which foods the person may be allergic to before starting a diet."

Allergy

"There are so many diseases that could have a possible allergic basis, such as migraine headache, alcoholism, asthma, obesity, anxiety, schizophrenia, and even in some cases mindless unprovoked violence. 'Almost all bad reactions come from food, but some can be caused by other things. Dust and mould and even the smell of a flower can cause a reaction. It really is a large subject to contend with.'"

"When I test someone for an allergy I inject a tiny amount of food extract under the skin. That will cause a small bubble that I measure. If after 10 min-



Something as innocuous as an orange can have strange effects on people.

utes it has grown, then it indicates that the patient is allergic to that food."

Dr Mumby is the author of *The Allergy Handbook*, a reference book full of the most up-to-date information on the subject. It also explains how to treat yourself, if you think you may have an allergy.

"I wanted to write a book that explained the subject in a nutshell, in simple layman's terms. But there is still a lot of debate about it all," he says.

Some doctors argue that allergies relate to only a few illnesses. But others, only a small percentage unfortunately, do believe that allergies lie behind many illnesses. "Once I saved an Irish boy from a jail sentence for grievous bodily harm because I discovered he was allergic to potatoes. People really do not know how certain things affect certain people."

"In this new health conscious age that we live in, more and more people are asking, 'Why am I ill?' and 'What are the side-effects of this drug?' People are becoming more aware of their diet and way of life."

"I believe that research into allergies is taking medicine to the brink of a revolution. But I do not think that I am a great pioneer. It is just that I am good at communicating things to people."

Dr Mumby, 45, first became interested in alternative medicine more than 20 years ago when he was still a medical student. He recalls: "I got to be so sick of all the butchery and drug-taking that I dropped out of Manchester Medical School for three years."

Quality "I did return to qualify as a doctor, but 10 years ago decided to specialise in investigating allergies."

"Diet can even help parents have a healthy child if they change what they eat at least six months before conception. I know of a mother who had suffered at least five miscarriages and given birth to a brain damaged child. She and her husband changed their diet and then had a perfectly healthy baby."

The *Allergy Handbook* is published by Thorsons at £3.99

Caught in a vicious circle of pain

By Linda Gamlin

NO ONE knows exactly how many people suffer from rheumatoid arthritis (RA) but estimates put the figure at one in 200.

Although it is thought of as a disease of the elderly (along with the more common osteoarthritis), RA often affects young people and even children.

A few unfortunate people are disabled by it in their thirties or forties. Recent research suggests that affected joints may be caught in a vicious circle of increasing pain and inflammation.

The pain, swelling, and stiffness of RA are caused by inflammation in the joint. The first part to be affected is a thin layer of cells, the synovial membrane.

This encloses the joint capsule and produces the fluid which keeps the joint lubricated. The inflammation goes on to affect other parts of the joint and it may destroy the cartilage which provides a smooth, low-friction surface at the end of each bone.

Inflammation arises whenever the immune system is aroused. The joints of RA patients are swarming with the roving cells that fight infection. But why are they there? Early theories suggested a virus infection, but there is little evidence for this. Alternatively, the body could be mounting an autoimmune reaction, mistakenly manufacturing antibodies against itself. These defensive molecules bind to specific targets, in this case, proteins in the joint, attracting immune cells into the area.

Recent research suggests that the nerves and brain are involved in promoting the inflammation. The pain-sensing nerves in the joint, when alerted by a painful stimulus, release chemical messengers that arouse the immune system.

The importance of this interaction is obvious: if a splinter enters the body, the pain-sensing nerves instantly alert immune cells so that the risk of serious infection is reduced. In the joints of RA patients, this process seems to have

The pain, swelling, and stiffness of rheumatoid arthritis are caused by inflammation in the joints. Recent research suggests that the nerves and brain are involved in promoting the inflammation.



Joint suffering: it has long been known that stress can make rheumatoid arthritis sufferers worse

become exaggerated. The pain is promoting inflammation, which in turn causes more pain and then more inflammation. The joints are caught in a vicious circle.

These discoveries may explain why RA attacks hands and feet (which have more pain sensors) in preference to knees and hips, and why stroke victims usually suffer symptoms of RA on their "good" sides

themselves by learning to relax and cope with stress. These measures are only an adjunct to conventional treatment, not a substitute.

One of the treatments that rheumatologists now use, "gold salts," probably works by knocking out the pain-sensing nerves. Other drugs, such as aspirin and ibuprofen, are useful because they suppress inflammation and dull pain.

Although it is thought of as a disease of the elderly, rheumatoid arthritis often affects young people and even children.

only — the joints on their paralysed sides probably remain healthy because the nerves are non-functional.

It has long been known that stress can make RA much worse. This also makes sense: the part of the nervous system that responds to stressful stimuli, the sympathetic nervous system, can affect pain-sensing nerves and the inflammatory process. Sufferers can help them-

With more severe cases, drugs that damp down the immune response (corticosteroids) may be used but they have side-effects and doctors try not to use them unless they have to. These discoveries will hopefully produce more subtle and effective treatments for RA. Highly specific drugs, that block the effects of the chemical messengers released by pain-sensing nerves, are one possibility for the future.

By Celia Hooper

CHICAGO, (UPI) — When the National Cancer Institute rushed out a "clinical alert" to doctors last May, many concluded it was the last word on treatment of women with early stages of breast cancer. Not so, warn two experts.

Dr Charles Balch, head of the division of surgery at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Centre in Houston, and Dr Eva Singletary, an assistant professor of surgery there, said it is premature to conclude that all breast cancer patients should get hormone- or chemotherapy after surgery.

The "clinical alert" from the federal research institute notified doctors that three yet-unpublished studies had all found early-stage breast cancer patients — those who had no cancer in the lymph nodes surrounding a cancerous breast — had better survival and lower recurrence of cancer if they received chemotherapy or hormone treatment after surgery.

Accompanying or adjuvant anti-cancer drugs, are believed to kill cancer cells that have spread away from the breast and are missed by the surgeon. Hormonal therapy may prevent some types of cells from becoming cancerous.

Chemotherapy for breast cancer patients? Doctors say it's still too early to say 'yes'

For more than a decade doctors have recommended use of such drugs following surgery for more advanced breast cancer, but extending the use of adjuvant therapy to early-stage or "node-negative" patients was new.

In a recent editorial in the archives of surgery, Balch and Singletary complain that exaggerated interpretation of the three studies led to "considerable confusion."

"Some of the conclusions reached by others about these trials are premature and their general application is clearly not warranted for many patients," the doctors wrote.

Balch and Singletary said the three studies described by the NCI showed "control" patients — those not receiving therapy after surgery — did unusually poorly. If this is true, the comparative success of the treated women may be due to quirks in the studies' designs rather than to post-operative therapies.

The three studies found an

average of 82 per cent of women who got drugs after surgery were alive and disease-free four years after surgery, compared to 72 per cent of the women who did not get anti-cancer therapy.

The Texas doctors said that at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Centre and the National Cancer Institute of Milan, Italy, 91 per cent and 86 per cent of node-negative breast cancer patients not given anti-cancer drugs are alive and disease-free four years after surgery.

In addition, Balch and Singletary suspect the small difference between treated and control patients after four years may precede still-smaller or non-existent differences in long-term survival rates.

Finally, the pair said although the drugs used generally have few side-effects, even a low risk can outweigh a minuscule advantage, and they note one patient died of complications from the treatment.

Noting, "surgical treatment

alone cures a substantial number of patients with node-negative breast cancer, especially when the primary tumor is small," Balch and Singletary urge doctors to consider several aspects of the size and type of cancer found in the breast before blindly prescribing post-operative chemotherapy or hormone treatment.

"In our opinion, the current information from these three clinical trials does not clearly justify adjuvant therapy for the entire universe of patients with node-negative breast cancer."

NCI said many factors go into clinical decisions, but said in the alert, "the mass of evidence is persuasive: adjuvant hormonal or cytotoxic chemotherapy can have a meaningful impact on the natural history of node-negative breast cancer patients."

Approximately 135,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer yearly in the United States.

Sinus pains difficult to diagnose

By Liza Galin Asher

IF YOU stub your toe, the cause of the pain is obvious. Other areas of the body are not so straightforward. Sinus problems can disguise themselves as facial tenderness, congestion, headaches, fever, post-nasal drip — the symptoms of a cold, flu, toothache, hay fever, or allergy. That's why treatment of sinus pain can be tricky. ... You must make sure sinuses really are the trouble source.

What sinuses do Paranasal sinuses are air-containing cavities in the skull, connected to the inside of the nose through narrow openings about the size of pencil lead.

We have four sets: frontal (above the eyebrows), sphenoidal and ethmoidal (behind and adjacent to the bridge of the nose), and maxillary (under the eyes).

The nose and sinuses are functionally linked as well, explains Bruce Jafek, MD, professor of otolaryngology at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Centre. Together, they produce a pint to a pint and a half of mucus a day, which is carried to the back of the nose and then swallowed.

Why do we have sinuses? "They give a greater surface lining for air to go through and be humidified, instead of going straight back from nose to throat," says Edward Weisberg, MD, of the department of otolaryngology at the Forbes Health System hospitals in Pittsburgh. Sinuses also lighten the weight of the skull, add resonance to the voice, and sharpen your sense of smell.

Sinus woes An infection or inflammation of the sinuses is called sinusitis. In most cases, it starts out as a common cold, which upsets the smooth functioning of the nasal passages, increasing watery mucus production and causing swelling.

Swollen nasal membranes block the tiny sinus openings, obstructing normal air and mucus flow. "That's when you get your 'sinus attack' — abnormal

pressure causing pain in forehead or face, between and behind eyes, or in cheeks and upper teeth."

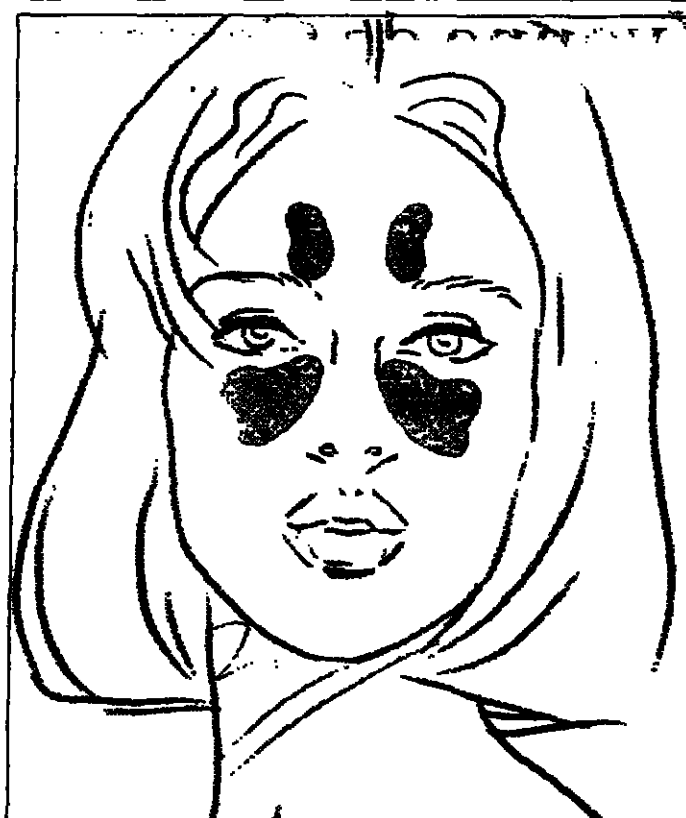
Where pain strikes depends on which set of sinuses is involved — frontal, sphenoidal, ethmoidal, or maxillary. An infection deep within the sinuses can cause throbbing pain in the middle of the head. Another kind of sinus headache occurs during airplane landings. Migraine and tension headaches feel uncomfortably similar to a sinus headache but are likely to come and go quickly; a sinus headache can linger for days — or even weeks.

"There is always some degree of sinusitis with a cold, but typically it drains and resolves by itself," says Johns Hopkins otolaryngologist David Kennedy. When a cold lasts more than a week and there is production of greenish mucus, that signals a bacterial infection. Bacteria swim from the nose into the sinuses, causing an acute infection. This is the most common form of sinusitis and is likely to trouble you only briefly. It clears on its own or with conservative medical treatment.

When a sinus opening is blocked for an extended time, chronic sinusitis occurs. Liquid is no longer discharged regularly, and the sinus gets plugged up. Although effects of chronic sinusitis are milder than acute attacks in terms of symptoms, they are persistent and can recur for years.

Getting relief "If symptoms persist over a week or two, with pain — particularly in the cheeks or forehead — and fever, then you've probably got something that needs to be taken care of medically or, rarely, surgically," says Dr Jafek.

If congestion continues unchecked, fleshy growths called polyps may develop on the sinus lining. Allergies, anatomic deformities, or extensive scarring may also cause chronic sinusitis. Some tumours and other types of infections, like fungus infections, can involve the sinus as



Treatment of sinus pains can be tricky, because one must make sure sinuses really are the trouble source.

well," says Dr Weisberg. "We think of sinus problems as one of those bothersome but not serious afflictions. In fact, it can be quite serious," says Dr Jafek.

The goal: To relieve pain by unplugging the sinus opening so infected material will come out. Home remedies help for some — applying hot compresses to the forehead and cheeks or inhaling vapour to loosen the thickened mucus. A vaporizer or humidifier at night may help the nose drain and make breathing easier. Aspirin or Tylenol should reduce fever.

An antihistamine can block pain, but it doesn't reduce swelling or act on the infection causing sinusitis. Decongestants will shrink swelling and dry membranes, thus relieving pressure, congestion, and post-nasal drip. "Both antihistamines and decongestants are two-edged swords," says Dr Jafek. "Because they dry things up, but then you've got thick, tenacious mucus — and that is not moved as readily."

If you use a nasal spray to reduce congestion, be careful, warns Dr Kennedy. "Sprays cause the lining of the nose to shrink, but when you stop using them, it swells again. Because of that, you have to use them on a regular basis."

They become less and less effective, and you have to use them more and more fre-

quently," he says. Dependence can become so great that it's almost impossible to discontinue them. Nasal sprays can be effective, but they should never be used long-term, advises Dr Kennedy.

What the doctor does? Recovery from a cold should drain sinuses naturally. But if a bacterial infection has set in, treating it with antibiotics can be important, says Dr Kennedy.

Medication might not be enough if there's an underlying deformity or problem. (You'll have to take care of that as well, or sinus infections will keep coming back. Sinus distress caused by allergies must be treated independently too.)

If over-the-counter remedies have not done the trick within a few days, see a doctor, who will examine your ears, nose, mouth, teeth, and throat. Using a nasal speculum, she will look into your nose and perhaps take X-rays. In the past few years, endoscopy has given doctors another way to view sinuses.

A magnification instrument with a built-in light source, the endoscope can discern sinus conditions early in the disease process.

Patients with severe sinus pain may require surgery. Endoscopic surgery, an outpatient procedure, removes the damaged tissue.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

TEEN-AGE PREGNANCY POSES SPECIAL RISKS

QUESTION: Our teen-age daughter is expecting a child, and we are worried about the risks to both mother and the baby. What can be done to overcome these problems?

ANSWER: Your concern is not misplaced since statistics show that there is a higher risk of serious health problems for babies born of teen-age mothers. The primary concern is birth weight, for babies born to teen-age mothers often are too small and are born premature. Their organ systems are therefore immature and underdeveloped. The metabolic systems that control body temperature and blood sugar levels are not completely in working order, leading to additional problems and complications.

The mother also runs additional physical and emotional risks. Serious complications during pregnancy and even death are higher in the group of mothers 15 years old or younger. Their educations and social development are seriously impaired in most cases, and their futures are compromised.

But sensitive and caring parents can do much to prevent the number and severity of these consequences of teen-age pregnancy. They can help guarantee that medical care

starts early in the pregnancy and that regular physician visits are scheduled and appointments kept. Proper nutrition, with necessary vitamin and calcium supplements, are a must and have substantial positive results. Make sure that the mother-to-be does not smoke or indulge in alcoholic beverages.

The facts are that no drugs can be safely taken during the pregnancy, particularly the first three months, and all medications must be supervised by your physician. The fewer taken, the better. In addition your love and support is essential, and your participation in helping your child make the right decisions about her child are important contributions to the welfare of all.

Consider taking advantage of counselling services that may be available through your local school or your local March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation. Your letter indicates that you can provide all of this important support. Good luck.

QUESTION: Although they are causing me no pain, my physician has discovered that I have gallstones. What are they made of and how did I get them?

ANSWER: You are not alone. An

estimated 25 million Americans have gallstones, about 10 per cent of the population. In addition you are one of the lucky ones who have "silent" stones, not one of the 500,000 patients who will have their gall bladders removed to treat their painful condition and to prevent serious or even life-threatening complications.

Gallstones form when chemicals that are usually dissolved in the bile form crystals that cling together to form stones. There are two main types: stones formed from cholesterol, about 80 per cent of the cases, and pigment gallstones, formed from bilirubin and other compounds.

The typical sufferer is a woman who has been pregnant, is overweight, consumes a lot of dairy products and animal fats, and is past 50. Twenty per cent of people in the United States, both men and women over 65, have gallstones.

Heredity plays a part as well. There is frequently a family history of the disease. If this description comes close to fitting you, you now have an indication of how your gallstones developed.

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Comic film Moon Over Parador takes audiences by storm

Richard Dreyfuss: back with a bang

Actor Richard Dreyfuss stars in a brand-new comedy spectacular, *Moon Over Parador*, set in a fictitious Caribbean country — and America loves the movie.

But not long ago he was drinking heavily, a cocaine addict, and shunned by the Hollywood set.

By Alex Molloy

AFTER a string of flop movies and severe drink and drug problems, actor Richard Dreyfuss is back with a bang in a comic movie which is taking America by storm.

In *Moon Over Parador* he plays a never-quite-made-it actor Jack Noah who finishes filming on an obscure Caribbean island and is promptly kidnapped by the Chief of Police.

He then learns that, to avoid a possible revolution, he must impersonate the country's dictator who has suddenly died.

After the initial shock wears off, he suddenly realises this could be the acting role of a lifetime!

Add a liberal sprinkling of fun, sexy frolics and politics and you have the recipe for this zany comedy.

Oscar-winner Richard Dreyfuss, who stars as Jack Noah, says of his role: "Jack is not someone who is at the peak of his career. He is somebody who is barely worth backing either in theatre or films."

"He is at the mercy of others. Then suddenly he has this opportunity, not only to take control of his own life, but to influence the lives of others in a positive way."

In this case, fantasy was partly mirroring reality for Dreyfuss. The actor feels he was given a second chance when he narrowly escaped death in a drug-induced car crash.

Dreyfuss, now 40, recalls: "I had a dreadful reputation. I could count the number of my friends on one hand. I was a cocaine addict and drinking a bottle of Cognac a day, and

worst of all — as far as Hollywood was concerned — my last three films hadn't made any money.

"Eventually there were three years when nobody would hire me — and I don't blame them."

"I went just crazy. I ploughed my car into a tree near my home in Beverly Hills — and was charged with possessing cocaine as I lay in my hospital bed."

"I was arrested and I was a failure. But it was the best thing that could have happened to me. Now I find that working is better than snoring cocaine."

Starring alongside Dreyfuss is sultry Sonia Braga who plays the dead dictator's sex-mad mistress. She is an actress still quite new to Hollywood but is a big star in her native Brazil. She only became a well known international name after starring in *The Millagro Beanfield War*, directed by Robert Redford who became her "constant companion" and lover.

Earthly America went wild over Braga's earthy looks and she agrees with the critics: "I am sexy," she says. "Look at me. It is wonderful to feel sexy. Only not everyone knows how."

All those roles I've played where the woman conquers by seduction, they are caricatures, somebody else's fantasy of what is sexy. Not mine.

"The other day I was in my garden, crawling around in the dirt in a pair of Bermuda shorts and bare feet. My hair was all over the place. Then I remembered I had to go to the market, so I put on my sandals and ran all sweaty to the supermarket."

"I found the clerk because I didn't know where to look for something and he said, 'Oh

Richard Dreyfuss flanked by Raul Julia (left) and Sonia Braga in *Moon Over Parador*.

boy, I know you, you are Sonia Braga', and his eyes shone. I stood there saying to myself, 'Hey, am I sexy or what?' and I laughed all the way home."

Her lover Robert Redford says: "If you put the sky, stars, moon, sun, river and earth together, you would have her mind."

And her co-star Richard Dreyfuss adds: "She is the most unique actress that I have ever worked with in my life."

Moon Over Parador has Sonia Braga doing what she does best: playing an alluring, sensuous woman. But she also displays her wonderful comic talents.

She has been an actress since the age of 14 when she appeared on Brazilian children's television. Since then she has appeared in *Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands* and the highly acclaimed *Kiss of the Spiderwoman*, as well as various Brazilian films.

Raul Julia, who also starred in *Kiss of the Spiderwoman*

plays Roberto Strausmann, the plotting Chief of Police who kidnaps Jack Noah and forces him to impersonate Parador's revered leader after he dies of a heart attack.

He says: "The movie is outrageous. And at the same time it has a very subtle political commentary that really attracted me to it. It has many different levels of expression."

Script

Born in Puerto Rico, Raul Julia moved to New York in 1964 where he appeared in several off-Broadway plays. He then joined the New York Shakespeare Festival company.

He was also in the mini-series *Mussolini and the Yet to be shown Ari*.

Moon Over Parador's director/screenwriter Paul Mazursky has put a little of his own experience into the script. He reveals: "I was an actor for a long time and I still identify with actors. I know that they

are happiest when they are working."

"So here we have the absurd situation of an actor who has just finished doing a movie and is now out of work. He is forced to play a part that he doesn't really want to play."

But as he starts to play it, he gets better at it and begins to like it. And Richard Dreyfuss really does this well. He is just wonderful."

Since *Parador* is a fictional country, the film's production designer, Pato Guzman, had to build what he describes as, "an imaginary country that could exist, but doesn't."

"Reality was important," he says, "so we created our own complete country with its own culture, music, national anthem, flag, and the Army and Navy uniforms."

The filmmakers searched the Caribbean and all of Central America to find the right place to start shooting. They eventually decided on Brazil as the location.

Comedy: Sally Field's new role

By Matthew Heller

LOS ANGELES, (Reuter): Oscar-winning actress Sally Field tried a different persona — that of stand-up comic — to prepare for her latest film *Punchline*.

"You're throwing yourself out there and saying, 'I think this is funny, what about you?' " she said in an interview. "I think it's pretty dangerous work."

Punchline features Field as Lilah Krytaick, a New Jersey housewife trying to reconcile the demands of family life with her efforts as a stand-up comedienne.

The film recently opened in the United States.

Lilah wants to make people laugh, and her comic talents start to blossom under the guidance of a seasoned comic played by Tom Hanks of *Splash* and *Big* fame.

Field, a mother of three, said the housewife side of Lilah's character came quite naturally. "I know her. I do have three children, a career and a house and I know what all that feels like. So she wasn't that alien from me."

"It was the stand-up that was the hard part."

For advice on stand-up comedy, Field turned to her old friend Lily Tomlin who recommended that she get up on stage. But her performance at a comedy club in Manhattan Beach, California, was not particularly fruitful.

Career

"I didn't learn anything because I didn't have any material," Field recalled. "I was just talking to the audience and being Sally Field. I know how to be Sally Field and I don't think it's particularly dazzling as stand-up."

Lilah's stumbling progress as a comedienne mirrors Field's own struggle with the part right up to the climactic club routine at the end of the film.

"Lilah was never supposed

Sally Field: an award-winning actress tries her hand at comedy in her latest film *Punchline*.

to have performed that piece before and I never performed it before," Field said. "So it has an improvisational look, a look of flying by the seat of your pants, which is what it was."

The 41-year-old Field has made a career out of rising to such challenges, accomplishing the rare transition from ingenue television starlet in *Gidget* and *The Flying Nun* to an honoured serious actress. She has won two best actress Oscars, for *Norma Rae* and *Places in the Heart*.

Field looks uncomfortable when asked about her past or her current state of mind.

"In the next couple of months when I get to stop for a while, I'll figure out what is going on," she sighed. "Life has been too hectic over the last two years, I'm just doing what I have to do."

But she admits: "I must have a certain tenacity or something or I just want it a whole lot. I just want to act so that leads me places eventually where I get to act."

"When you have a long history and your career has not really happened in the last seven years, you learn a lot about falling down and getting

up," she added. Of the seemingly boundless energy packed into her diminutive frame, Field said: "It's part of what I am — I'm short, I have brown eyes and a lot of energy."

In addition to acting and motherhood, that energy is being channelled into production through her Fogwood films, which was responsible for *Murphy's Romance* in 1985 and *Punchline*. One reason for getting involved in production, she said, was to ensure that there are good roles for women.

Field has just completed a non-Fogwood film, *Steel Magnolias*, which traces the lives of several Southern women against the backdrop of a beauty parlour. It features other top female stars — fellow Oscar-winners Shirley Maclaine and Olympia Dukakis as well as Daryl Hannah and Dolly Parton.

Now Field plans to concentrate on Fogwood projects that were put on hold while she was filming *Steel Magnolias*. Only one thing has been ruled out.

"I will applaud and I will laugh, but I will never get up there and do stand-up again," she said.

Yvonne de Carlo: writer, actress at 65

By Ivor Davis

"THERE's no one man in my life," says the woman once labelled the most beautiful in the world, "but I'm still surrounded by some of the greatest studs around!"

At 65, Yvonne de Carlo has reached the age where beautiful movie stars traditionally visit a plastic surgeon or hide themselves away with their memories. But de Carlo has done neither.

De Carlo has, however, written an autobiography *Yvonne* (St Martin's Press), which was published this year, and stars with Rod Steiger in a new film *American Gothic*, which opens at the end of the year.

De Carlo, who recently returned from Vancouver where *American Gothic* was filmed, says her role will "either kill my career or give me new life as a character actress."

"It's out of character for me and producers don't seem to want to cast me out of character," she says. "I like it because I don't want to go on forever as a glamour queen. In this picture Rod and I are Ma and Pa. They're plain and quite murderous. They live on a remote island in an old wooden cottage at the top of the cliffs. The trouble is they are still living in the 1920s."

When six young friends are stranded on the island, Ma and Pa take them in.

"They give them dinner, apple pie and Bible readings," she says, "then they... well, that would be telling."

"Ma and Pa have a crowded cellar," she says. "They've had scores of visitors who came but never left. She knits scarves for those visitors, then wraps them around their necks in the cellar."

Career

De Carlo began her show-business career under the aegis of her stage mother who trained her as a dancer and singer. And it was a slow climb to the top.

In the early '40s she landed small roles in more than a dozen films, including *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1943) and *Road to Morocco* (1942) in which she played a handmaiden to Dorothy Lamour. It wasn't until 1945 that she shot to stardom in her first major film, *Salome, Where She Dances*, playing the title role of a French dance-hall hostess.

In the late '40s and '50s de Carlo ranked with the best of the movie-town film sirens —

Yvonne de Carlo: screen goddess of the 40's and 50's (above) and with Rod Steiger in the film *American Gothic*.

Rita Hayworth, Betty Grable, Marilyn Monroe and Ava Gardner. Throughout her career,

which included some 90 movies, De Carlo starred with Clark Gable (*Band of Angels*, 1957); Victor Mature (*Tim*

buktu, 1959; John Wayne (*McLintock*, 1963) and Charlton Heston (she was picked by Cecil B. de Mille to play Moses' wife in *The Ten Commandments*, 1956).

She was also one of the most sought-after women offscreen. There were affairs with Howard Hughes, Prince Aly Khan (fresh from his marriage to Rita Hayworth), Robert Taylor, director Billy Wilder, Ernest Lubitsch, the Shah of Iran's brother, screen Tarzan Jack Mahoney, Howard Duff, Ray Milland, Burt Lancaster, Gary Cooper and Orson Welles. Even her "just good pals" group was stellar — ranging from Jimmy Stewart to Sterling Hayden to Noel Coward.

Today, de Carlo lives in California's Santa Ynez Valley with her two Rottweilers named Lily and Wolfgang. She is divorced from stuntman Bob Morgan and has two sons in their late 20s.

"I'm not a Hollywood person," she says. "I like to stay home and watch horror films from my library." (De Carlo has a collection of more than 400 science-fiction and monster movies).

Sure, she concedes, a face-lift might have extended her glamour career, but she says she was afraid to have one. She has an active fan club and laughs when the subject of her many love affairs, including one with a Mafia boss, comes up in the conversation.

"It was while I was doing 'Follies' on Broadway and some gentlemen from the DA's office came to see me backstage and said they were interested in learning what I knew about Tony (not his real name). Well, he was a wonderful boyfriend. He gave me some expensive diamonds, but we never discussed business."

De Carlo says that along the Hollywood path she fell in love with Howard Hughes and wanted to marry him. "But Howard told me frankly, 'I'll make a terrible husband.' He wasn't a kook in those days. He was handsome and normal."

"I haven't given up the idea of finding another man to share my life with," she says, "but a good man is hard to find."

She is also writing another book. "I had to leave a lot out of this one," she says, "and maybe I'll but some of it in my next effort — it'll be a cookbook. I love to cook. How do you like my title 'Romance on the Range'?"

After playing an adulterous husband and a cutthroat financier

Douglas turns to wholesome film

By Meriel Beattie

SCHLADMING, Austria: Sex-symbol actor and producer Michael Douglas, recently seen as an adulterous husband and a cutthroat financier, seems set to surprise filmgoers with his latest venture — a wholesome film about Heidi.

Not only has Douglas switched from adult cinema to a family film, about the young heroine of Johanna Spyri's classic 1880 children's novel.

To film *Courage Mountain*, he has also transplanted the world-famous Swiss orphan to Austria, cast a Czechoslovak as her grandfather and an American as Peter Goatherd.

Heidi herself is played by an actress from this year's most controversial film.

"I don't see enough movies that allow parents and children to go to the cinema together," said Douglas, who won Oscars for his performances in the steamy thriller *Fatal Attraction* and for *Wall Street*.

"I hope with *Courage Mountain* to create a film and hopefully a whole series of movies, that will address this audience."

Although Heidi is a name generations of readers automatically associate with Switzerland, Douglas and his Stone Group Production team decided to shoot the eight-million-dollar film at a specially-constructed "Swiss" village near the Austrian ski resort of Schlading.

He has also picked an international cast, for many of whom family entertainment is a new departure.

Actress

Heidi is to be played by 14-year-old English actress Juliet Caton, whose last role was an angel in *The Last Temptation of Christ* — a film which has outraged Christian groups in Europe and the United States who condemn it as blasphemous.

Czechoslovak opera singer Jan Rubes has been cast as her grandfather and Hollywood star Charlie Sheen (who played in the tough Vietnam war film *Platoon*) as Peter the goatherd. While the Austrian media

brims over with excitement about the film, the Swiss seem less enthusiastic.

"Austria steals our Heidi" complained the title page of the *Schweizer Illustrierte* magazine.

The magazine shows photos of Heidi's "real" mountain, in the Alps above Spiez's summer home at Meienfeld near the Austrian border.

However, Douglas rejects suggestions that he should have shot the film in Switzerland or used some Swiss actors in the production.

"There is no point in getting nationalistic about this," Douglas told a news conference when he visited the location.

"Heidi belongs to the world. You could say she is... one of Switzerland's greatest exports."

View

This view is shared by Austrian co-producer Norbert Blecha, who sees the choice of location as a chance to boost both the country's tourism and its embryonic film industry.

"I don't really think the Swiss have any reason to be cross about what we are doing — I mean it's not as if we're shooting it in South Africa or anything like that," Blecha said.

Spyri's original novel was made into a film in 1937 starring Shirley Temple as an eight-year-old Heidi living on a mountain with her grandfather. *Courage Mountain* takes up the story a few years later.

"Our Heidi is a few years older and has been sent to a school for orphans in Italy," Blecha explains. "Then World War One breaks out so she saves four orphans and takes them across the Alps to her grandfather in Switzerland."

The grandfather's house is part of a specially-constructed village above the Urnalm — a cluster of huts and grazing pasture in the mountains.

Local residents are more than delighted with the choice of location.

"Until now we have been known primarily as a winter sports resort and most of our tourists are British," said



Michael Douglas: set to surprise filmgoers with his latest venture — a film about Heidi.

Schlading Mayor Hermann Kroell.

"But we are sure plenty of Americans will want to come here after this."

Kroell adds that the local tourist board plans an advertising campaign to make sure filmgoers realise that the breathtaking scenery surrounding Heidi's home is Austria.

They also hope to preserve the buildings of Heidi's village as a permanent tourist attraction.

Courage Mountain has already brought an estimated 40 million schillings (\$3 million) to Schlading and has provided off-season work for hoteliers, costume-makers and craftsmen.

The project came as a

pleasant surprise for 62-year-old Wilhelm Walcher, who has kept cattle on the Urnalm for more than 40 years.

"The first thing I knew about all this was when a helicopter started flying above my pasture," said Walcher, as he parked his shining Japanese jeep on the winding mountain track leading up to the location.

"Then these Americans arrived and asked me if I wanted to sign a contract with them."

Walcher, who has erected a sign at the bottom of the remote valley informing tourists they must pay a 22 schilling (\$2) fee to visit Heidi's Mountain declined to name the sum he was paid.

"Let's just say life is very good at the moment," he said.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Higher taxes will adversely affect the US economy, says economist

Slower growth predicted for Japanese stock market

By M.C. Bose

THE proximity of 1992 and the formation of a single European Economic Community (EEC) market appears to have influenced world markets particularly the market-makers.

An American professor of finance has said if the European countries achieve all of their goals for their 1992 accord, the stock markets in Europe, especially London will show a marked improvement. This is because of their enviable competitive position in the world markets and their ability to produce more efficiently at lower costs. They could also save millions of dollars in inventory costs due to the easing of inter-EEC transit requirements.

Course
Calvin M. Boardman, professor of finance, associate dean for external affairs, the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, USA, is now in Kuwait and conducting training courses for Kuwait's

Institute of Banking Studies. The course includes credit analysis and working capital management for bank credit officers and the analysis of economic indicators for bank investment officers. Boardman told the Arab Times in an exclusive interview that this is his second visit to Kuwait. He has started a research study on its industrial sector, the risk elements and the entire profiles of the past 10 years. Boardman took doctorate in finance from the University of Carolina, USA and had been teaching finance and economics at the University of Texas and the University of North Carolina before he joined the University of Utah.

Reasons

He said: "During my visit to Tokyo in 1987 along with government corporate officials I gathered the impression that the Japanese stock market was overvalued relative to the economic expectations. The collapse of the stock markets in October 1987 has adjusted the stock value



Calvin M. Boardman

downward. However the Japanese stock market has responded with higher values since then. But the future trend of the Japanese stock market appears to be relatively low because of decreasing profits."

Boardman cited two main reasons for the slowdown in profits: lower income growth

and a rapid increase in costs. Japan has been facing fierce competition from South Korea and other Pacific rim countries particularly in electronics, steel, shipbuilding and textiles. He said because of these factors the precise and correct re-evaluation is difficult to predict.

"To hedge this possibility, Japanese companies must continue their major expansion drive to other countries. Many Japanese companies have been building plants in the US and Europe to overcome the import and exchange problems brought about by the events surrounding 1992," he said.

Large

Boardman said it is quite possible that in 1992 Europe will become the world's largest industrialised market.

He added: "The good news for the US stock market is that US companies, notably Ford and IBM, are strategically the best-placed companies in the European market today. They have treated Europe as one single

market for many years and have built plants all over Europe. However, the Japanese are now investing huge amount of money in Europe to catch up."

Dampened

He has succinctly said the good news for the US stock market has been dampened by the bad news about the US deficit.

The recent US election has not changed the fears about the US deficit. George Bush has made a firm commitment that there will not be any tax increase, but many in Congress are arguing otherwise. The respected Wall Street economist Henry Kaufman has said the US government must soon raise taxes by up to \$20 billion to avoid further drops in the value of the dollar and higher interest rates.

Spending

Boardman said if no new taxes and no major spending cuts are introduced, the deficit will widen and bring more pressure on interest rates. This will undoubtedly lead to increased state and local taxes. Higher taxes will

adversely affect the economy. He believes that the long-term interest rates will move up further.

He said that inflation has been brought down to manageable levels by the Reagan administration, but it is being threatened mainly by two factors. First, if the deficit continues to widen further the pressure will be placed on the bond markets and perhaps outstrip the world's willingness to supply capital to the US government. Secondly, the drop in the dollar against major world currencies, is making imports more expensive. Until the demand for domestic goods rebounds in a few years, inflation will continue to rise compared to the recent past.

Talking about the Gulf situation, Boardman said: "If careful planning is adopted the Kuwait economy will return to the better days of yesteryear, but I am confident it will happen. Kuwait will take an even greater lead in the economic development of the Gulf region."

Seminar on new products in cable engineering



J.F.R. Velling

By Jadranka Porter

A LEADING Dutch cable engineering firm, NKF, yesterday held a seminar on new products in cable engineering.

The event marked NKF's 75th anniversary and 25 years of the firm's presence in Kuwait.

Kuwait's Ministry of Electricity and Water has regularly engaged NKF as a contractor on its projects since 1963.

NKF has supplied and installed more than 1,000 km of underground power cables in Kuwait.

Network

The main speaker at the seminar was Professor M. Antal, a leading authority on power network technology in the Netherlands.

The seminar, opened by the Dutch Ambassador to Kuwait, J.F.R. Velling, was attended by more than 70 engineers.

Since its establishment in 1913, NKF has been the main supplier of the Netherlands electricity supply boards. NKF has extensive experience with the execution of foreign contracts, often in the form of integrated projects in which NKF has been responsible for all stages of development and installation of cable systems.

Saudis give \$59.5m to Jordan

AMMAN, Nov 27. (Agencies): Saudi Arabia on Thursday made a \$59.5 million contribution to Jordan under a 1978 financial pledge to the kingdom, the official Jordan news agency reported.

The agency, Petra, said the Saudi payment, its fifth of the year, was transferred to the Central Bank of Jordan on Thursday.

Final

This is expected to be the final year of payments to Jordan under the Baghdad Summit agreement of 1978, when Arab oil states promised to give Jordan a total of \$1.2 billion yearly to maintain its steadfastness against making a separate peace with Israel.

Only Saudi Arabia has met its full commitment of about \$360 million a year to help the government cope with its budget deficit and payments to service foreign debt amounting to about \$6.5 billion.

Riyadh, now paying six instalments a year instead of three as in previous year, made its fourth instalment on Sept 25.

Petra quoted Minister of Finance Hana Odeh as saying the donation "reflects the Saudi government's keenness to fulfil its commitment to Jordan."

Flexible freeze plan not yet revealed

Washington awaits Bush's answers to federal budget

WASHINGTON, Nov 27. (AP): President-elect George Bush has promised to start bargaining with Congress over the deficit on the first day of his administration, but the Democrats in Congress want more.

They'd like a detailed budget, spelling out how he would cut spending and honour his pledge of no new taxes.

"How do you negotiate with someone who has no position?" Asked Rep. William H. Gray III, who may be a member of the chamber's Democratic leadership when the new Congress convenes in January.

The start of the fiscal 1990 budget war is just weeks away, yet Bush has declined to provide details of his so-called "flexible freeze" plan to balance the budget that he mentioned frequently during his election campaign.

Plans

Gray, in a radio address yesterday, called on President Ronald Reagan and Bush to join together in putting together a budget that includes Bush's

economic plans.

"This would be the single most effective way to reassure the nation and the world that we are on a responsible fiscal course," Gray said.

He said a failure of Bush to present his plan would be "a terrible mistake" and send the wrong signal to financial markets and Congress.

"That is the road to dissension and stalemate, not to a solution," Gray said.

Positions

Under the budget procedure, the administration proposes a spending plan and Congress works out its own plan. The President then either accepts the legislature's budget or vetoes it, which sends the document back to Congress.

Some Republicans are urging Bush not to produce a detailed budget of his own next year. That would let him avoid revealing his positions until he begins negotiations with Congress, and could allow him to blame Democrats if higher taxes are included in

whatever budget package emerges.

During the election campaign, Bush pledged that he would not raise taxes.

"Congress would like to take very few positions, if any, until they have completely destroyed Reagan's budget or the president-elect's budget," said Sen. Pete Domenici, ranking Republican on the Senate Budget Committee. "He shouldn't give them that opportunity."

Bush said last week that he had not decided whether to introduce a spending plan of his own. The Democrats hold a majority in both the House and Senate.

With the transition from a Reagan to a Bush administration under way, lawmakers and others are searching for indications of how Bush intends to chop the deficit for fiscal 1990, which begins next Oct 1, to \$100 billion, the target required by law. To reach the goal, administration officials believe \$35 billion in deficit reduction will be needed. Reagan administration

officials said last week they would soon finish a spending plan reflecting the priorities of Reagan, not Bush. So far, they said they have kept Bush aides apprised of their work, but the transition team has not helped shape the final product.

"We're not going to be proposing a ... flexible freeze concept as part of Ronald Reagan's last budget," said Joseph R. Wright, the outgoing director of the President's Office of Management and Budget. "Are there any specific George Bush proposals from the election? No, there are not."

Bargain

Bush could, if he chooses, submit revisions to Reagan's blueprint, a practice that has been routine for incoming chief executives since President Dwight Eisenhower took office in 1953.

But this time it may be different.

Democrats realise Bush may decide to bargain instead of laying out a programme.

"It's a total copout," said Rep. Tony Coelho, a Democratic leader. "He said he'd be specific after the election. He campaigned on a falsehood."

Bush has said his flexible freeze would balance the budget in a few years of limiting overall federal spending increases to the rate of inflation. Under the economic projections he has used, federal revenues would grow faster than that and would soon overtake spending.

He has promised no new taxes, no cuts in social security — the national retirement pension plan, no lagging of defence spending behind inflation and no slowdown in the growth of priority programmes.

Critics have said his economic assumptions are much too optimistic, and that by exempting defence and social security from cuts — along with the \$150-billion yearly interest payments on the debt — his spending slashes would have to come from only one-third of the \$1.1-trillion budget.

Meeting to review joint ventures

Saudi-Japanese joint commission resumes talks

RIYADH, Nov 27. (KUNA): The Saudi-Japanese joint commission began its second meeting here today under the co-chairmanship of Saudi businessman Ismael Abu Dawood and Yoh Kurosawa, vice-president of the Industrial Bank of Japan.

Abu Dawood said the two-day session will discuss matters related to trade exchange and prospects of setting up joint ventures.

For his part Yoh Kurosawa highlighted the depth of Saudi-Japanese relations and underscored the importance of dialogue between businessmen of the two countries.

Support

He thanked the Saudi and Japanese governments for their support and co-operation and said the commission's meeting is convened to promote mutual understanding through exchange of views.

He said two sub-committees will discuss specific terms and issues of trade and joint ventures. "However, the establishment of joint ventures between the two countries' private sectors need more time for consideration," he added.

"With the ceasefire in the Iraq war we have great expectations for future changes in the Middle East economy. As always, the economic relations between Saudi Arabia and Japan are most important for us and we are well aware that their relationship is complementary bringing forth mutual benefits. And we hope to further develop these relations. The large 60-member delegation to the meeting reflects our enthusiasm and expectations on the outcome of the commission's deliberations," he added.

The meeting was attended by Hussein Sejini, the Deputy Planning Minister, who praised the

existing strong bilateral relations, lauded Japan's contribution to the international co-operation and referred to the kingdom's role as a peace-loving nation.

Exports

Sejini said Japan's exports to the kingdom have grown from \$2.75 billion in 1986 to about \$3.27 billion in 1987 while the kingdom's exports to Japan have increased from \$5.3 billion in 1986 to about \$7.4 billion in 1987. "These transaction rates portend promising possibilities for further strengthening bilateral ties along with intensification of the trade movements," he added.

"The commission has looked forward for new horizons of co-operation and exchange of expertise, and have established strong relations between the two countries. I wish great success to

both sides in carrying out their great responsibilities," he added.

"The kingdom's attitude towards international co-operation is also evident through its unlimited support for peace issues, legitimate human rights, equality, and safeguarding of Islamic values with their human and moral aspects throughout the world. Such an attitude has enhanced the kingdom's position among Arab, Islamic and world communities," Sejini said.

Ties

"This understanding between our country and Japan has contributed much towards merging of expertise and capital, forging of co-operative links between both countries through trade exchange activities and investment projects, proceeding in an ascending curve that shows continuous increase in the size of invested capitals and trade exchange activities between

them, and entering a new era of co-operation every year," he added.

For his part, Japanese ambassador to Saudi Arabia commented the existing bilateral ties and praised Saudi Arabia's splendid achievements in various spheres. He expressed optimism over future co-operation between the two countries' private sectors and said Japan is importing 30 per cent of its oil requirements from Saudi Arabia.

A 70-member delegation of Saudi Arabia is attending the meeting of the commission, which held its first meeting in Tokyo in February 1987.

In a press statement, Abdullah Taber Al Dabbagh, secretary general of the Council of Saudi Chambers and Industry, described the meeting as a step forward in bolstering co-operation between Saudi Arabia and Japan.

US grain industry eager for new trade pact with Moscow

WASHINGTON, Nov 27. (Reuters): US grain traders are eager to see Washington and Moscow get results from drawn-out negotiations and approve a new grain pact next week.

US and Soviet officials will meet on Monday in Moscow in a bid to successfully conclude grain negotiations which began back in March. The goal of the negotiations is a new multi-billion dollar grain agreement.

Used to making quick decisions, grain traders have been frustrated by the slow progress of the talks which have been held in Washington, London and Vienna. The grain industry is now anxious that the two superpowers resolve their differences and sign a new deal.

Talks

Failure to produce a new agreement out of next week's talks could mean lower grain prices at the Chicago board of trade and other grain exchanges, they said.

"We've been talking about this ever since the old agreement ran out on Sept 30," said Chicago grain trader Vic Lespinasse.

"If we come in Monday and

they (US officials) are over there and talking about signing Tuesday or Wednesday, the market probably will give them a grace period ... but if they come back empty handed or don't offer them an export bonus deal, it could be very bearish," he said.

Chicago wheat prices rose yesterday on the news that American and Soviet officials were meeting in Moscow on Monday and on expectations that a new agreement would be signed.

Agreement

Government officials said earlier this week that Moscow and Washington have tentatively agreed to a two-year extension of the last five-year agreement which expired on Sept 30.

Under that pact, Moscow pledged to buy at least nine million metric tonnes of grains and oilseeds from the United States every year, and the United States promised to sell the grain at competitive prices.

Although not another five-year agreement as has been hoped for by American farmers, grain officials said a two-year extension would be favoured by US producers.

World Business Summary

EEC ministers adopt toxic waste resolution

BRUSSELS, Nov 27. (AP): Environment ministers of the 12 European Economic Community states yesterday urged other nations to adopt stringent rules on the exports of toxic waste. The ministers said in a statement that a system must be adopted, "at the widest possible international level to ensure effective control of trans-frontier movements and disposal of hazardous waste." The ministers said they were concerned by recent reports that shipments of toxic waste were being sent to countries that would not deal with it safely. The result, they said, was serious danger to both the environment and health. The EEC ministers said such countries should be warned on the risk of hazardous waste and also urged the EEC trade bloc to help developing nations when asked to get rid of the waste. The EEC statement said talks at the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development and within the United Nations environment programme reflected EEC rules on the export of toxic waste. The rules stress that countries must agree to receive waste before it is shipped, known as the "prior consent" principle, and that the shipper must have proof the receiving country has the technical facilities and know-how to deal with the waste. The ministers invited the 12 EEC nations to "encourage" the development of efficient treatment of hazardous waste at source and to exchange technical information. They also urged the member states to train staff to handle, treat and dispose of waste and to lay out technical norms for waste disposal plants. The ministers adopted the resolution early Friday.

FAO tells member nations to relieve financial crisis

ROME, Nov 27. (AP): The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation said today it was facing a severe financial crisis largely because the United States had not paid its assessment and arrears. The 49-nation FAO council blamed the cash crisis on a lack of timely payments by many member countries. But it said the greatest impact was caused by delays in payments by the United States, which is assessed 25 per cent of FAO's regular budget. FAO co-ordinates agricultural projects in developing countries and is the largest specialised agency in the United Nations. Its 1988-89 budget totalled \$492 million. Cash shortages forced the agency to cut or slow down its programmes for 1988-89 and 1988-89, the council said. It said no further cuts should be made. Director-general Edouard Saouma said he would use his authority to borrow if the situation deteriorated further. The council, ending 10 days of meetings, said \$83.7 million or 34.8 per cent of the 1988 assessments were unpaid as of Nov 11. It also said \$56.3 million remained unpaid from previous years and that the two figures were the highest in the history of the organisation. However, the council said the United States has since announced a payment of \$25 million. The United States, which along with other nations has demanded reforms at FAO, also paid the agency \$25 million last July 25. A diplomat, who declined to be identified further, said at the time that the payment showed the United States was encouraged by the agency's progress in budgetary reform. He said the July payment was to be applied to US arrears of \$67.4 million for 1986 and 1987. The US assessment for 1988 was \$60.7 million and 3.9 million more for its share of the working capital and special reserve accounts.

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Trade war with new US administration is looming from Jan 1

Dark clouds gathering as EEC summit eyes road to '92

BRUSSELS, Nov 27, (Reuters): When European Economic Community leaders hold their summit meeting in Rhodes next weekend, the atmosphere on the Mediterranean island is likely to be cool with a threat of heavy storms.

There should be bright intervals too, for the community state that anyone dared to predict, after an acrimonious summit in Copenhagen a year ago.

The 12 EEC economies have survived last year's stock market crash with unexpected ease. The community's internal financial crisis has been resolved — its budget is even in surplus. Most important of all, the drive to create a giant EEC market without internal trade barriers after 1992 is building up speed.

"Europe is on the move. There is no question about that," Lord Cockfield, EEC internal market commissioner and architect of

the 1992 campaign, said in a speech in London last week.

"Industry is now investing, industry is now re-organising on the basis of 1992," he added.

Clouds

But, as ever in community affairs, dark clouds are gathering on the horizon.

A trade war with the new US administration is looming from Jan 1 over an EEC ban on meat treated with growth hormones — "an awful way to start a new relationship," according to Washington ambassador to the community, Alfred Kingston.

The other major threat on the international front is the swelling chorus of complaints from the EEC's trading partners around the world that Brussels is framing the rules for 1992 in a protectionist fashion.

"This concept of fortress Europe is not just a catchword for journalists. It's reality," Louis Hughes, vice-president of the European subsidiary of the

US car giant General Motors, told a conference in Brussels last week.

"(1992) is going to be a very protectionist business."

The 12 EEC heads of government will try once again to calm such fears at their meeting on Friday and Saturday by issuing a statement on the community's role in the world.

Critics

"The 1992 Europe will not be a fortress Europe but a partnership Europe," a draft of the statement says. But more words are unlikely to be enough to silence the EEC's critics.

On the internal front, the path to 1992 is also littered with obstacles.

The EEC governments are deeply split over how far and how fast European political and economic integration should proceed. Not for the first time, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is in the thick of the argument.

The debate has crystallised around hard-hitting speech she delivered to an audience of EEC dignitaries in the Belgian city of Brussels in September.

Revolution

The speech attacked other governments, and the European commission for pushing what she considers to be a socialist and corporatist programme for Europe instead of the free-enterprise, deregulatory model on which the "Thatcher revolution" is based.

"We have not successfully rolled back the frontiers of the state in Britain, only to see them reimposed at a European level with a European super-state exercising a new dominance from Brussels," she said.

She has since announced that she neither wants nor expects to see a European Central Bank or common EEC currency in her lifetime and has repeated scathing criticisms of Cockfield's proposals to bring indirect taxes

into line in the EEC for 1992.

Her remarks were seen as a personal attack on both commission president Jacques Delors and Cockfield himself, whom she has decided to replace at the commission from January.

But they also upset many of her fellow prime ministers, who said publicly that they disagreed with her.

Progress

Diplomats say these differences will undoubtedly surface in Rhodes when the summit discusses a commission report on progress towards 1992 and sets priorities for some 150 EEC laws, including the taxation issue, which remain to be passed by them.

But few are predicting a major row, especially since Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu, the summit host and chairman, is still recovering from heart surgery.

"It is going to be a calm summit," said one Greek minister.

"You cannot have a crisis because there is no issue which is ripe for a crisis. But I can see a crisis in Madrid on the monetary and central bank issues," he added.

The EEC summit in Madrid next June will consider a report by a committee of central bank governors and experts chaired by Delors which was asked at the community summit in Hanover last June to recommend "concrete steps" towards EEC Monetary Union.

Sources close to Delors said that having replied to Thatcher's Bruges speech with some barbed remarks about "a discordant voice" and "hackneyed chauvinism", he was not looking for a showdown with the British prime minister in Rhodes.

Importance

But they said he would continue to stress the importance of the "social dimension" to the single market, especially worker participation on company

boards and EEC — wide legislation on workers' rights which are both anathema to Thatcher.

Diplomats said Delors had no choice because Greece is about to hand over the rotating presidency of EEC ministerial meetings to two more socialist governments — Spain for the first six months of 1989 and France for the rest of the year.

"Delors is a good politician," said one. "For the British and German presidencies he talked a lot about deregulation. For the socialist governments, he talks about the social dimension."

One issue in Rhodes which might have provoked a row but should not prove too contentious now is a planned declaration on the importance of protecting the environment.

"When we put that on the agenda, Mrs Thatcher had not yet become an environmentalist," said one Greek source, in a mocking reference to Thatcher's recent interest in the subject.

KD deposit rates firm in thin trade

KUWAIT, Nov 27, (Reuters): Kuwaiti dollar interbank deposit rates in thin trade which focussed on two-month deposits as one major player covered end-of-year positions, dealers said.

Quotes for the two-month maturity rose to 8-1/4, 7-3/4 per cent from 7-7/8, 3/8 yesterday. Business was reported at 7-15/16 per cent.

Little trade was seen in the other fixed periods, but dealers said rates firmed by up to 1/2 point in response to the demand for two-months. One-month edged up 1/4 point to 8-1/4, 7-3/4 per cent from eight, 7-1/2 while three-months rose 1/2 point to 8-1/4, 7-3/4 per cent.

Firmed

Six-months and one-year both firmed to 8-1/4, 7-3/4 per cent from 7-1/2, seven and 7-1/4, 6-3/4 respectively.

Overnight funds initially shot up five points, trading at 10 per cent, then fell back to yesterday's five per cent mark.

Kassem calls for repatriation of Gulf capital

BAHRAIN, Nov 27, (Reuters): Bahrain's Commerce and Agriculture Minister Habib Kassem urged Gulf investors today to bring home billions of dollars in capital invested abroad.

Kassem also told delegates attending a two-day Gulf export promotion seminar in Bahrain that the time was right to transfer some government-owned projects to the private sector.

"The GCC (Gulf Co-operation Council) governments have for years shouldered the burden of development programmes and now it is time for the private sector to hold the flag and continue the march," he said in an opening address.

"I also take this opportunity to call for the repatriation of capital invested abroad, which has suffered losses due to fluctuation of international exchange rates, in order to place it in productive investments in its own countries," he added.

Kassem said the ministers had also approved plans to set up a centre to handle commercial disputes within the region.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's Minister of Trade and Industry Faisal Abdulrazzak Al-Fozan and the delegation accompanying him returned home today after participation in the meeting.

VCR: a boon for the bargain hunters

WASHINGTON, Nov 27, (UPI): Consumer reports call it "a buyer's market," and indeed, stalking the wilds of today's VCR jungle can turn up bargains galore — but for those with big bucks to spend, it's a haven as well.

With intense opposition and exploding technology, the best VCR values for the average consumer seem to be in the less expensive models, the \$200 to \$400 range, which now have many luxury features previously available only on top-of-the-line products.

Most units in this price range offer remote control, one-touch recording, on-screen programming (a big plus for many who find this a perplexing function) and the HQ, or higher quality, feature that reduces video noise and makes for crisper picture edges. Some have stereo.

Prices

But if you want to move up, there's plenty of room at the top. With prices ranging up to \$2,000, there are gadgets galore on these upper echelon models.

High-tech features include pulse-code modulation (a recording technique similar to compact disc players), digital noise reduction, Hi-Fi with MTR (recorder multi-playback, special motion effects and digital-enhanced freeze action, simulcast (FM and TV) recording

capability, easier on-screen programming with bar codes and pen lights, strobe for stop-action frames and picture-in-picture, which on some models divides the screen into nine sections.

The new Super-VHS format, delivering a much sharper, better detailed picture, has eclipsed many of the more elaborate standard VHS models. JVC, which invented Super-VHS, recently introduced its latest model, loaded with glitzy features, priced \$1,299. There is also a comparable enhanced definition Beta format.

Trend

The trend is toward digitalisation and more sophisticated, integrated audio-video systems, with an added accent on sound, especially enhanced stereo and surround sound, to capture more of the theatre experience at home.

With the proper equipment, you now can watch "Top Gun" or "Star Wars" in surround sound and swear you were at the movies.

Prices for a sound system vary widely, from several hundred to several thousand dollars. One deep-pocket example is an "instant theatre" sound right out of the box, as Video Magazine described the new HTS theatre reference system, with its logic decoder, five speakers, subwoofer and other equipment,

selling for \$9,600.

New TV models are appearing on the scene with built-in extras to vastly improve VCR sound, some with surround decoding. Others, with digital chips, are displaying sharper, higher-definition images on their big screens.

A dual-deck VCR, from Go-Video Inc., with several innovative copying and editing capabilities, is expected to hit the market in the coming months. Combination TV-VCRs, grouped in a single unit, are on the market now.

Portability

For pure portability, there's a battery-operated unit with a 5-inch screen fed by 8 mm tape. It can fit in a briefcase.

As an alternative, the durable laser videodisc, with excellent picture and sound quality but without recording ability as of now, is making inroads into the VCR market.

With so many models to choose from, the buyer could easily get confused. The first determination to make is how will it be used and how much do you want to pay.

If you are basically interested in "time-shifting," recording a TV programme for later viewing, either VHS or Beta is fine. If you want to watch motion pictures and other pre-recorded material, you likely will opt for VHS since rental films in that format are

easily found, while Beta movies are not.

It almost seems like an understatement to say the VCR has revolutionised home entertainment. It struck a responsive chord with millions of Americans, giving them an incredible freedom of choice. Back then Time magazine called it a "video jukebox."

Now in its second decade, it is one of the fastest evolving of all consumer products. A recent Gallup poll indicated that about 65 per cent of American homes now have at least one VCR and one in 10 has more than one.

Sony was first with its Beta format, then came VHS, which now holds a commanding 10-1 edge. Since 1975, there have been an estimated 62.6 million VCRs sold in this country.

Friend

VCRs also spawned a satellite industry, the thousands of video stores in every nook and cranny of America, stocked with all the latest movies. Surveys show that average VCR owner routinely rents one a week.

Hollywood, which initially feared the new electronic toy, has found a friend in the VCR and makes virtually all productions available on videocassette, sometimes earning more from sales and rentals of a movie than from its theatrical run.

Stock market shows signs of ending its post-election slump

NEW YORK, Nov 27, (UPI): The stock market posted broad gains in extremely slow trading surrounding the Thanksgiving holiday this week despite being pressured by concerns over key economic issues.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average, which fell 17.60 on Friday, closed the week at 2074.68. For the week, however, the blue-chip index gained 12.27 points.

Broader market indicators also gained on the week. The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 0.45 to 150.63. Standard and Poor's 500-stock index advanced 0.76 to close the week at 267.23.

Declines, however, led advances 973-789 among the 2,120 issues traded. Big Board volume totaled 431,486,580 shares, compared with 580,359,145 last week and 568,970,030 a year ago.

Slump

The stock market showed signs of ending its post-election slump as prices rose steadily through the middle of the week despite government reports that showed the economy was growing at a relatively robust pace.

On Tuesday, the Labour Department reported that the consumer price index rose 0.4 per

cent in October. On Wednesday, the Commerce Department said factory orders for durable goods rose 2.4 percent in October, compared with a decline of 2.9 per cent in September.

After taking the day off Thursday to observe Thanksgiving Day, stock prices fell broadly lower on Friday amid fears of inflation tied to higher oil prices and a weakness in bonds as the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries neared an agreement to limit production.

Rallied

Oil stocks rallied on news of a cutback, but issues such as airline stocks gave up gains won earlier in the week as OPEC's progress toward limiting oil production signalled higher fuel prices.

Ricky Harrington, a technical analyst with Interstate Securities Corp. in Charlotte, North Carolina, said the market suffered from lack of breadth as concerns over the dollar's weakness, the huge trade and budget deficits and higher interest rates narrowed trading to a few selected issues.

While little happened during the week to ease worries about the dollar, fears of higher interest rates were heightened on Friday after worse-than-expected

October trade data released in London caused the British government to hike the lending rate one percentage point to 13 per cent.

"The hike in British rates will pretty much force the (Federal Reserve) to increase the discount rate," said Trude Latimer, a market analyst with Josephthal and Co.

Both analysts attributed the week's low volume to the Thanksgiving holiday.

On the NYSE trading floor this week, RJR Nabisco was the most active issue, up 4 to 88. A special committee of RJR Nabisco directors extended its bid deadline as a group led by First Boston Corp. entered the battle for the food and tobacco giant with a \$26.8 billion bid.

First Boston's record bid topped firm bids from Kohlberg Kravis Roberts and Co. and a management-led group.

Texas Utilities followed, up 1/2 to 28 3/4. AT&T was third, up one 5/8 to 29 1/4.

IBM was up 1/4 to close the week at 116.

Among the other active blue chips, General Electric was off 1/8 to 43 3/4, Sears as off 1/2 to 39 1/2 and General Motors was up 2 to 82 1/8.

Third World commercial energy use to rise: expert

KUWAIT, Nov 27, (KUNA): A leading energy expert today anticipated that commercial energy consumption of developing countries, already at 25 per cent of the total global consumption, would jump to 35-40 per cent at the turn of the century.

Dr Pachuri, president of the International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE) and a leading energy economist, affirmed that there is a lack of understanding of energy demands, noting that the drop in oil prices in 1986 was mainly due to low demand of energy.

Speaking at a press conference held at the main offices of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), Dr Pachuri said that demand for energy mostly comes from the developing world.

Indicated

Commenting on energy economics, he indicated that it was originated by Harold Hotelling nearly 50 years ago, as well as Paul Frankel who was one of its founding fathers.

As regards energy consumption, Dr Pachuri said that several lessons from the past ought to be studied, such as the careful recycling of energy surpluses and managing the outflow of oil.

Pachuri, who is also director of

the Tata Institute for Energy based in India, called for a greater flow of information regarding energy resources and consumption among all countries, as well as "loose co-ordination" to avoid any confrontation such as the one between developed countries and oil producers.

In respect to his organisation, he said that the IAEE founded in the mid-'70s has grown beyond the anticipation of its founders to a strength of 3,000 members spread in 50 countries, the last of which to join was Malaysia.

Meanwhile, Secretary-General of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) Abdel Aziz Al Wattari said today that the scientific arbitration committee has announced the 1988 award, granted by the Organisation for Scientific Research Works related to the petroleum industry.

Wattari added that the committee selected three winners from 23 research works and books.

Among the winners is Omar Ahmed Sariyeh, a Syrian national working for the Syrian Oil Company for his research entitled "geochemistry: organic material and oil."

Gulf Bank selected to represent SWIFT in Kuwait

KUWAIT, Nov 27, (KUNA): The Gulf Bank, National Bank of Kuwait, Commercial Bank of Kuwait, Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait, Bank of Kuwait & Middle East, Buryan Bank, Kuwait Real Estate Bank, the Industrial Bank of Kuwait, Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait, the Gulf Investment Corp., Kuwait Finance House and Kuwait Foreign Trading Contracting & Investment Co., started using its telecommunications network for fund transfers with international member banks.

SWIFT is an acronym for the Society of Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication, a non-profit co-operative society that was established in 1973 by about 250 American and European banks. The network became operational in 1977 and today it has a membership of over 2,500 banks in 65 countries with over 1 million messages per day passing over the network.

Network

The network is built around high-speed processors (computers) communications and switching equipment installed in two main operating centres in the Netherlands and the US and is connected to regional processing centres in each country. The Kuwait regional processing centre is in the Gulf Bank, head office building.

SWIFT is a private network owned by member banks and financial institutions and it is noted for the high degree of reliability, efficiency, security and speed.

As always, the Kuwaiti banks and financial institutions strive to improve their efficiency and customer services through the use of the latest technology.

Chairman of Kuwait committee for SWIFT system users and manager of communication and office automation in the Gulf Bank, Ali Hassan Al Bader told KUNA that Kuwait has joined that system since Sunday last week. Bader said the Gulf Bank was selected to represent SWIFT in Kuwait at the recommendation of the Central Bank of Kuwait and the banks which are members of the society.

GOVERNMENT TENDERS

THE tenders summarised below are invited by the Central Tenders Committee on behalf of government ministries and other concerned authorities. The relevant documents may be obtained from the office of the Central Tenders Committee during office hours against payment of non-refundable fees shown therein. Unless otherwise stated all relevant offers shall remain valid for a period of 30 days.

Tender No. 2787/D
Tender's internal No. 316/88
Concerned party: Kuwait Oil Company
Requirements: Supply of generating set
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offer's value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday, 8.1.1989

Tender No. 2810/S
Tender's internal No. 317/88
Concerned party: Kuwait Oil Company
Requirements: Supply of Liner Hanger Assemblies & setting tools
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offer's value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday, 10.1.1989

Tender No. PTT/8805-88/88
Tender's internal No. 321/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Communications
Requirements: Supply & installation of Post Office Boxes
Relevant fee: KD30/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offer's value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday, 3.1.1989

Tender No. MD/MZ/12-88/88
Tender's internal No. 314/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Defence
Requirements: Supply of different sizes of electrical refrigerators, freezers, water coolers, air conditioners, fans & ice makers
Relevant fee: KD30/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offer's value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday, 10.1.1989

Tender No. 12-88/88
Tender's internal No. 320/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Interior
Requirements: Supply, installation & maintenance of 4 air conditioning units of Health Affairs Centre at Qurtoba
Relevant fee: KD50/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offer's value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday, 12.1.1989

N.B.: This tender is open for contractors classified in 2nd & 3rd categories of air conditioning works.
Tender No. MEW/22/88-88/88
Tender's internal No. 311/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Elec. & Water
Requirements: Supply of 39 various vehicles from local market
Relevant fee: KD30/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offer's value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday, 3.1.1989

Tender No. 6-88/88
Tender's internal No. 312/88
Concerned party: General Admin. of Customs
Requirements: Complete maintenance & repairing works of minor construction works in Al Salmi Customs Centre
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offer's value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday, 20.12.88

N.B.: This tender is open for contractors classified in 4th category of construction works.
Tender No. AA/88/20-87/88
Tender's internal No. 309/88
Concerned party: Kuwait Municipality
Requirements: Construction, completion & maintenance of Public Beaches No 10 in Fintas & No 11 in Abu Dhabi
Relevant fee: KD50/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offer's value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday, 20.12.88

N.B.: This tender is open for contractors classified in 3rd & 4th categories of construction works.
A pre-tender meeting shall be held at 9:00 am, on Monday, 12.12.1988 at Constructional Department — Kuwait Municipality to answer the relevant queries.
Tender No. W 731/8
Tender's internal No. 310/88
Concerned party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co.
Requirements: Supply of chemicals
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2% of offer's value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday, 17.1.1989

Qualified tenders:
1. Sankyo Kasei K.K. Japan
2. Dow Chemical Co. USA — Bushari & Bandar Cont. Est.
3. Dow Chemical Europe Switzerland — Sefwan Trdg. & Cont. Est.
4. Mitsubishi Chemical Ind. Ltd. Japan.

(To be continued)

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Venezuela seeks new loans from foreign banks

CARACAS, Venezuela: In a policy switch, Venezuela is seeking new loans from private foreign banks.

Finance Minister Hector Hurtado said last month that his country wants \$1.5 billion in fresh money from banks before the end of the year, because low oil prices have caused a dollar shortfall.

But bankers said they would provide new funds only if the government pledged gold reserves or future oil income as collateral, something the government apparently doesn't want to do.

"Venezuela could raise the money tomorrow if the government offered gold or oil as collateral," a knowledgeable observer said.

Hurtado said the new funds would go to shore up foreign

reserves, which the government has drawn down to meet balance of payments deficits this year and next.

Payments

Hurtado said Venezuela will have trouble meeting debt payments this year without the new funds. But he ruled out declaring a debt moratorium, as Peru and Brazil have done.

"We will not take any unilateral action," he said. "We will work together with banks."

Although Venezuela is Latin America's wealthiest country on a per capita income basis and is in better shape than almost all debtors to repay loans, bankers here say their home offices don't want to lend money without strings to any Latin American country.

Our stock goes down every time we lend to Latin America," one banker said.

At the same time, bankers said they are wary of Venezuela, because they believe the government would misspend the money they lent. They complain that Venezuela has little to show for its \$30 billion foreign debt, charging that much of the money was wasted and stolen.

"Venezuela will need new money," said a European banker. "But the last thing we want to do is lend for balance of payments support. We'd just be throwing money into a hole."

Hurtado declined to say whether Venezuela will seek a renegotiation of the \$20.34 billion foreign debt agreement signed last year. That accord covered nearly all the country's medium-term and long-term foreign bank debt and cut interest charged to seven-eighths

of a percentage point over the London interbank offered rate, from the previous 1-1/8 point.

But Carlos Andres Perez, the overwhelming favourite to win December's presidential election and take office in February, has called for easier terms.

Bankers, however, say that Venezuela will first have to adopt such unpopular economic measures as unifying its exchange rate, increasing to market levels the domestic interest rates charged to borrowers and savers, and reducing the government's large budget deficit.

Bankers also say Venezuela should first seek new money from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank before coming to them. Perez, however, recently described the IMF as a vehicle for "economic

totalitarianism."

The government's decision to seek new loans marks a sharp change in policy. Since the international debt crisis hit in 1982, Venezuela has prided itself on being one of the few big debtors that have not sought new funds and have made both interest and principal payments to banks.

Income

But in an economy where oil income provides 87 per cent of export income, Venezuela has had to join the three Latin American countries that have bigger foreign debts — Brazil, Mexico, and Argentina — in asking for fresh funds.

Oil income is expected to be about \$7.7 billion this year, down from \$14.8 billion in 1984.

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FARWANIYA, opp. the petrol pump near the supermarket. One room for an Indian or Filipino family or working ladies. Tele. Mr Hussein, 4748288, 9.30 am - 1 pm. (AT2-44983-2)

SALMIYA, near the Indian/Pakistani school, 2 bedrooms, hall, CAC, available from Dec 1. Furniture can be sold separately. Rent KD170. Tele. Mr Ramesh, 2438431, 2447073, 9 am - 1 pm, 5 - 10 pm. (AT2-44992-3)

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SALWA, Block 1, near the Indian School, 3 bedroom mullaq with 2 bathrooms with kitchen and separate entrance. Rent KD130. Tele. Abu Hasan, 3917744, 3918633. (AT1-44949-3)

FOR SALE

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BMW 528i, 1982 model, grey, in very good condition. KD1800. Tele. Mr Adnan, 2446593, 2463339. (AT2-44986-3)

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MAZDA 929 LX Sport, 1985 model, manual, 34,000 kms, one careful owner. KD1650. Tele. Mr Bradley, 2432047/9, work, 5731342, home. (AT5-45011-3)

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MITSUBISHI Colt, '86 model, with AC, 4 doors, 42,000 kms. One owner. KD1200 or KD200 down payment. KD49 per month by instalments. Tele. 5653952, 9035881. (AT3-45009-3)

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Notre Dame retain No. 1 ranking

NEW YORK, Nov. 27, (AP) — Even without its No. 1 runner and No. 1 receiver, Notre Dame kept its No. 1 ranking.

The Fighting Irish, overcoming the last-minute suspensions of tailback Tony Brooks and flanker Ricky Watters, beat second-ranked Southern California 27-10 on Saturday to move within one victory of their eighth national championship.

Tailback Mark Green, forced to play the entire game because of Brooks' absence, scored twice on short runs for the Irish. Quarterback Tony Rice ran 65 yards for a touchdown, and Star Smagala returned an interception 64 yards for the other Notre Dame scores.

For Southern Cal's Larry Smith it was "the most bitter loss of my coaching career because we didn't give ourselves a chance to win."

"When you play a big game like this, you can't make big mistakes, and that's exactly what we did. Notre Dame is a fine team; they did what they needed to do to win."

Notre Dame will meet No. 4 West Virginia in the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 2 in a battle of the nation's only unbeaten teams. Southern Cal, 10-1, plays No. 11 Michigan in the Rose Bowl.

In other games involving ranked teams, No. 3 Miami beat previously unbeaten No. 8 Arkansas 18-16. No. 14 Houston downed winless Rice 45-14, and No. 20 Georgia defeated Georgia Tech 24-3.

At night, No. 16 Louisiana State routed Tulane 44-14, and fifth-ranked Florida State took Florida 52-17.

No. 3 Miami 18, No. 8 Arkansas 16.

Carlos Huerta kicked a 20-yard field goal with 5:38 left and Miami held Arkansas to minus-14 yards in the fourth quarter as the Hurricanes handed the Razorbacks their first loss.

Huerta's third field goal capped a 10-play, 74-yard drive. Arkansas' Steve Atwater dropped a potential interception in the end zone one play before the kick.

No. 5 Florida State 52, Florida 17. Chip Ferguson's three first-quarter touchdowns passes sparked Florida State, which won its last 10 games after an opening loss to Miami.

Ferguson's passes to Lawrence Dawsey, Tom O'Malley and Sammie Smith shot the Seminoles to a 21-7 lead. Coach Bobby Bowden removed his starters in the third period after the Seminoles opened up a 45-10 cushion.

No. 16 Louisiana State 44, Tulane 14.

Greg Jackson returned an interception 71 yards for a fourth-quarter touchdown, and Tommy Hodson three for 222 yards and two touchdowns for LSU, which will go to the Hall of Fame Bowl against Syracuse.

Louisiana State finished with an 8-3 record and was 6-1 in the Southeastern Conference, tying for first place with Auburn. Tulane finished at 5-6.

No. 14 Houston 45, Rice 14. Houston's Andre Ware threw five touchdown passes and Jason Phillips and James Dixon became the first teammates in NCAA history to finish 1-2 in the nation in receiving as the Cougars defeated winless Rice.

Rice finished its season 0-11 and extended the nation's longest losing streak to 18. Houston improved to 9-2.

BRACEWELL AND HADLEE BLAST VENGSAKAR & CO.

New Zealand set to defeat India

BOMBAY, India, Nov. 27, (AP) — John Bracewell and Richard Hadlee sent New Zealand cruising towards an imminent victory in the second cricket Test against India today, claiming seven Indian second-inning wickets for 137 runs by close on the fourth day of the match.

India were set a victory target of 282 after belligerent rear-guard action by Ian Smith and Bracewell propped the New Zealand second innings total to 279.

Resumed
The upper half of India's batting line-up crashed in the face of accurate bowling by Bracewell and speedster Hadlee on a turning pitch. The spinner took four wickets and Hadlee three.

The visitors resumed today at 182 for 8 but their innings stretched beyond lunch as Smith contributed a brisk 54 and Bracewell hit 32. The two tail-enders were associated in a valuable ninth-wicket stand of 69.

Both fell victim to off-spinner Arshad Ayub, whose tally for the innings was five for 59 off 33 overs. Smith gave a catch to skipper Dilip Vengsarkar at silly mid-



Bracewell (right) and Smith (left) with a physiotherapist during the drinks interval. (Reuters wirephoto)

off but appeared dissatisfied with the umpire's verdict.

The New Zealand right-hander indicated while returning to the pavilion that the ball came off his pads. Bracewell was the last man out, Ayub holding on to a return catch.

Bracewell continued his valuable contribution to New

Zealand's efforts by picking up four Indian wickets with his off-spin bowling. He bowled Navjot Sidhu and Vengsarkar as the batsmen failed to read the line of his tossed-up deliveries.

Later, Mohammed Azharuddin edged him into the hands of Ken Rutherford and Kapil Dev was caught in the covers by a

diving John Wright.

Hadlee, the highest wicket-taker in Test cricket, claimed opener Krishnamachari Srikkanth leg before wicket with the first ball of the innings.

He later took the wicket of Srikkanth's partner Arun Lal, but not before the bearded Indian opener scored 47 runs. Ravi Shastri was brilliantly caught by Ian Smith behind the wickets when he tried to play Hadlee down to third man.

The New Zealand all-rounder claimed six wickets in the first innings.

At stumps, Kiran More and Arshad Ayub were at the crease.

The game resumes on Tuesday after a day of rest. India hold a 1-0 lead in the three Test-series, having won the first match at Bangalore earlier this month.

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND first innings 236 (J. Bracewell 52 R. Shastri four 45)

INDIA first innings 234 (K. Srikkanth 94 R. Shastri six for 49)

NEW ZEALAND second innings (overweight 182 for eight)

T. Franklin c More b Kapil Dev... 2

J. Wright lbw b Hirwani... 36

A. Jones lbw b Ayub... 78

M. Greatbatch b Hirwani... 31

K. Rutherford c Arun Lal b Ayub... 17

T. Blair lbw b Ayub... 5

R. Hadlee c Vengsarkar b Ayub... 1

I. Smith c Vengsarkar b Ayub... 54

D. Morrison c More b Hirwani... 0

J. Bracewell c and b Ayub... 52

E. Chatfield not out... 2

Extras (b-4 lb-8 w-1 nb-5)... 21

Total... 279

Fall of wickets: 1-2 73 3-149 4-163 5-169 6-176 7-176 8-181 9-250.

Bowling: Kapil Dev 24-5-52-1, Patel 10-4-37-4, Ayub 33-11-59-5, Hirwani 38-7-93-4, Shastri 10-1-35-0.

INDIA (2nd innings)

K. Srikkanth lbw Hadlee... 0

Arun Lal c Greatbatch b Hadlee... 47

M. Siddhu b Bracewell... 14

D. Vengsarkar b Bracewell... 0

M. Azharuddin c Rutherford b Bracewell... 21

R. Shastri c Smith b Hadlee... 6

Kapil Dev c Wright b Bracewell... 36

Kiran More batting... 8

Arshad Ayub batting... 2

Extras (b-5 lb-3 nb-3)... 11

Total (for seven wickets)... 137

Fall of wickets: 1-0 2-48 3-54 4-89 5-89 6-134 7-134

Bowling: Richard Hadlee 13-1-35-3, Daniel Morrison 6-1-27-0, Ewen Chatfield 10-1-19-0, John Bracewell 15-3-48-4.

American wins Japan Cup

Pay the Butler stuns Tamamo Cross

TOKYO, Nov. 27, (Reuters) — Pay the Butler paid his American owner about \$1 million today when he unexpectedly beat home-trained favourite Tamamo Cross to win the Japan Cup.

Pay the Butler, a four-year-old colt, started the race at 14-1 but belied his outsider's ranking as he charged down the final straight to beat 11-5 favourite Tamamo Cross by half a length for the winner's prize of 124 million yen (\$1 million).

Jockey Chris McCarron, the Kentucky Derby winner who arrived in Japan only yesterday, said he had watched films of about a dozen races on the Tokyo course 16 times each to plan his strategy.

He said he wanted to "lay back in the middle of the pack and wait as long as we could before making a move." He followed those tactics exactly during the one-and-a-half mile race and so too did Katsumi Minai on Tamamo Cross.

Backed

Both emerged from the pack on the last turn to scrap for the lead down the final stretch. Pay the Butler opening up a narrow gap he held to the finish.

Tamamo Cross, with eight consecutive wins behind him, had been heavily backed to win while Pay the Butler could claim only two wins from nine starts as a four-year-old.

Pay the Butler's trainer Robert

Frankel had said before the race that his horse's previous record did not reflect his fundamental talent as it included races when his jockey did not show and races run on bad turf.

Victory made McCarron this year's top American money-winning jockey with \$13.9 million.

The winning time was two minutes 25.5 seconds — only 0.6 seconds outside the 2:24.9 record set last year by France's Le Glorieux.

Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner Tony Bin of Italy had been the pre-race non-Japanese favourite at 3-1.

After staying well back for most of the race, he failed to show the required turn of speed on the straight to stay with the leaders

and finished fifth behind third-placed Oguri Cap of Japan and fourth-placed My Big Boy from the United States.

Britain's Shady Heights and Japan's Mejiro Durren had been the pacemakers for most of the distance but faded on the final stretch to finish 14th and 11th respectively.

Attracted

The race, Japan's top international event, was run on firm turf in warm dry weather and attracted a crowd of 111,000. "It looks like hell... but the ground itself is much better than it looks," said McCarron.

The total prize money in the race was 236 million yen (about \$2 million).

Moon KO's Monserrat to retain title

SEOUL, Nov. 27, (Reuters) — South Korean champion Moon Sung-Kil floored Panama's Edgar Monserrat three times before retaining his World Boxing Association (WBA) bantamweight title with a seventh-round knockout victory today.

The fight was over in the 44th second of the round when the South Korean caught Monserrat with two left hooks to the jaw. The Panamanian fell to his knees, tried to get to his feet but sprayed back and was unable to stand up in time.

Moon, 24, a hard-punching former world amateur bantamweight champion who turned professional in 1986, also floored the challenger in the first and third rounds with his formidable straight punches.

It was the unbeaten champion's first successful defence of title he won from Khaokor Galaxy Thailand on a unanimous but narrow points decision in August.

Appeared

Moon, who won the crown in only his seventh professional fight, will now face Galaxy again under a rematch contract.

The stylish Panamanian, 22, appeared to score better than the champion in the second, fourth and fifth rounds when Moon missed with numerous wild swings. But Moon's punching power proved too strong for Monserrat to withstand.

Moon said afterwards: "I felt I could finish him easily when I first floored him in the first round. I was aiming for a knockout after that but his fast footwork, weaving and dodging made it difficult for me to keep him within range."

Today's victory improved the South Korean's professional record to eight wins, seven by knockout.

Monserrat has now failed three times in world title bids. He was stopped by WBA junior-bantamweight champion Khaosai Galaxy, twin brother of Khaokor, in the second round in Bangkok in December 1985 and outpointed by Mexican Gilberto Roman for the World Boxing Council super-flyweight title in May 1986.

Zaragoza wins

FORLI, Italy, Nov. 27, (Reuters) — Mexican Daniel Zaragoza retained his World Boxing Council super-bantamweight crown yesterday when he knocked out Italian challenger Valerio Nati in the fifth round with a swinging left-hand punch to the jaw.

Fresh scandal overshadows Nebiolo's re-election

ROME, Nov. 27, (Reuters) — The most powerful man in athletics, Primo Nebiolo, seeks a sixth term as Italy's track-and-field chief next month with a fresh scandal at the federation overshadowing his almost certain re-election.

Nebiolo, president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), has headed the Italian federation, FIDAL, for 20 years and looks sure to extend his reign despite the latest scandal which threatens to result in court action against one of his closest aides.

Depose

According to independent forecasts, neither of Nebiolo's opponents — 1960 Olympic 200 metres champion Livio Berruti or Giuliano Tosi, a federation vice-president — has enough support to 'depose him when delegates vote in Sardinia on December 11.

But the legacy of the battle could be the prosecution of Luciano Barra, once one of



Primo Nebiolo

Nebiolo's leading lieutenants, for alleged commercial misconduct at FIDAL.

It has also led to calls from a sports press highly critical of Nebiolo's leadership for Italy's Olympic Committee (CONI) to take direct charge of the troubled federation.

To say Nebiolo is unpopular with the Italian press would be an understatement.

In a recent editorial, Italy's top circulation La Gazzetta dello Sport said: "In practice, the (Italian) athletics federation has been run by Nebiolo and a few other people like a 'Cosa Nostra'. The best thing that can be said about the federal council is that it has been composed of manipulated mummies."

Kuwaitis get Dubai rally warning

DUBAI, Kuwaiti challengers Tariq Al Wazzan and Eid Falah were warned yesterday about the dangers of driving in the desert during the concluding round of the 1988 FISA Middle East Championship, which gets under way on Thursday.

Experienced UAE campaigner Abdullah Omar, winner of the event in 1981 and 1983 says that changes to this year's route could make the world's richest rally even tougher than ever.

And that is certain to mean two extremely testing days of driving for Al Wazzan, partnered by Khalid Khalifa, and Falah, accompanied by Sadeq Ashkanani, both competing in Range Rovers.

Omar, one of the most respected

competitors in Middle East rallying, singled out the 26-kilometre seventh special stage, ridden with treacherous waterbeds and known as Rocky Dam, as the one that could cause the most problems.

"First of all it's very long, and in fact this section made up two stages last year," said Omar. "It's very rough. There are lots of blind ruts which you don't see almost until you are upon them. It could be a real car-breaker."

Trails

The 927-km rally, including 28 special stages totalling 384-km, roars to life from the Dubai Hyatt Regency hotel at mid-day on Thursday. Ahead lie the rugged gravel trails around Hatta, which make up the first leg, and

the high-speed Jebel Ali and flats which bring the event towards its conclusion on Friday.

The tussle between five-point championship leader Saeed Al Hajri in his Rothmans Audi Quattro, and Toyota star Mohammed Bin Sulayem, for the regional title will obviously attract most of the attention.

But once again there is a high-quality international field, with competitors from Jordan, Qatar, Oman, Lebanon and India, as well as Kuwait, challenging the best rallying talent in the UAE in a 41-car starting line-up.

Men like Muscat-based Lebanese veteran Tony Georgiou, and his fellow-countryman Michel Saleh, will be ready to pounce if the top two make any mistakes.

Kagoshima golf

TOKYO, Nov. 27, (Reuters) — American Larry Mize sank a six-foot birdie putt at the last in blustery conditions to secure a one-stroke victory in the 90 million yen (\$740,000) Kagoshima International golf tournament today.

Mize, the 1987 US Masters champion, snatched victory from Japan's Masashi Ozaki with a four-under-par total of 284 despite a one-over final round of 73 which included three birdies, a pair of bogeys and a double bogey.

Calcavecchia takes Open title

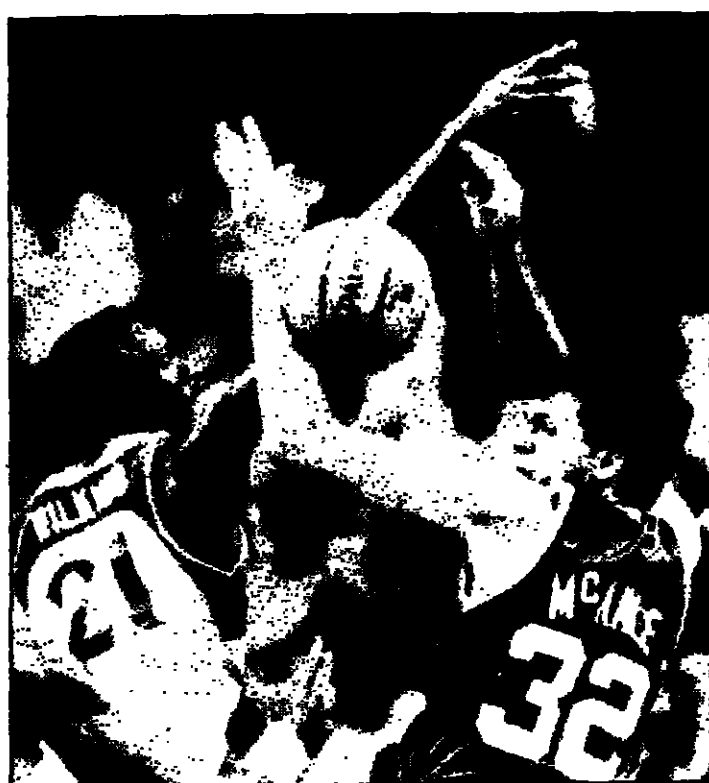
SYDNEY, Nov. 27, (Reuters) — Fellow-American Mark McCumber finished second with a closing round of 69 for a 13-under-par total of 275 and Australian PGA champion Wayne Grady was third on 276 after firing a final round 71.

Calcavecchia, 28, only played the course once after arriving from Honolulu before he was pitched into the championship, but he responded to the challenge in magnificent style. He finished with a total of 25 birdies and an eagle from his 72 holes.

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Wilkins takes Hawks past Celtics



Wilkins (left) knocks the ball away from Celtics' Kevin McHale in first quarter action. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEW YORK, Nov. 27, (AP) — Dominique Wilkins scored 38 points and sparked a scoring rampage that pulled the Atlanta Hawks away from a first-half slump and on to a 104-91 victory over the Boston Celtics in a National Basketball Association match last night.

After a sluggish first quarter, the Hawks shaved a nine-point deficit to 49-47 with a rally sparked by John Battle's jumper. The Celtics carried a 55-49 lead into halftime.

Knicks 127, Cavaliers 112. Patrick Ewing scored 31 points and Mark Jackson had 20 points and 16 assists, helping the New York Knicks to a 127-112 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers.

With nine straight points early in the fourth quarter, the Cavaliers trailed only 104-98, but New York responded with a 13-2 spurt, taking its largest lead of the game, 117-100, with 3:24 left.

76ers 122, Pacers 114. Mike Gminski scored eight of his 23 points in the last three minutes and Ron Anderson added 22 as the Philadelphia 76ers defeated the Indiana Pacers 122-114.

It was the fourth straight vic-

tory for Philadelphia, while Indiana dropped its 11th game in 12 starts.

Bullets 120, Hornets 113. Jeff Malone scored 16 of his 29 points in the third quarter, leading Washington to a 120-113 victory over Charlotte.

Charlotte used an 18-8 spurt to trail only 56-54 at halftime, but Washington opened the second half with an 8-2 run and gradually built a 94-70 lead with 1:55 left in the quarter.

Pistons 102, Lakers 99.

Joe Dumars scored 20 points and Isiah Thomas added 18 as the Detroit Pistons beat the Los Angeles Lakers 102-99 in the first meeting of the teams that met in the 1988 NBA finals.

Thomas scored six of his points in the final 4:27, sealing the victory with a drive down the lane, giving Detroit a 99-92 lead with 1:01 left in the game.

Results

New York	127	Cleveland	112
Atlanta	104	Boston	91
Washington	120	Charlotte	113
Philadelphia	122	Indiana	114
Dallas	113	Utah	93
Milwaukee	103	Miami	93
San Antonio	117	Phoenix	99
Detroit	102	Los Angeles	99
Denver	128	Chicago	123
Houston	112	Golden State	102
New Jersey	98	Sacramento	97

On the par-five, 533-yard fifth hole, worth \$75,000 due to carry overs, Floyd, Nicklaus and Strange all put their third shots to within ten feet of the hole.

Nicklaus putted first and missed an eight-foot putt. Strange then missed a six-foot birdie attempt, and Floyd holed his birdie from three feet to win the first money of the day.

On the next hole, a 222-yard, par three, Floyd put a three iron to within 12 feet of the pin. His birdie earned him \$15,000.

"The worst fears in a Skins game is to be shut out," Floyd said. "I played in a Skins game in (South) Korea in October that really helped. In a tournament you ease your way into the win after four days. Here, it's instantaneous."

Missed

The two remaining players, Americans Curtis Strange and defending champion Lee Trevino were both shut out.

The format of the Skins places a specific monetary value on each hole. A player must win the hole outright in order to collect the money. The first six holes are worth \$15,000, the next six \$25,000 and the final six \$35,000.

None of the players was able to break through on the first four holes. Floyd and Trevino both birdied the first hole, and Nicklaus and Floyd birdied the fourth.

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Klimova (right) and Ponomarenko performing their dance. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviets win ice dancing

TOKYO, Nov. 27, (AP) — Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko of the Soviet Union displayed near-perfect form today in winning the ice dancing title in the NHK Cup international free skating competition.

Skating to the song "Mack the Knife," the Soviet pair drew perfect 6.0 scores from three of the seven judges for artistic impression, and 5.7 from all seven judges for the technical merit of their performance.

Another Soviet pair, Maya Usova and Aleksandr Zhulin, finished second, and April Sargent and Russ Withery of the United States placed third.



Adams (right) and Garrison show off their plaques after winning the tournament.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

English soccer

LONDON, Nov 27, (Reuters): Result of English Division One soccer match today: Newcastle 0, Manchester United 0.

Belgian tennis

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Nov 27, (AP): Top-seeded Henri Leconte of France edged Swiss Jakob Halsek 7-6 (7-3), 7-6 (8-6), 6-4 to win the \$490,000 Belgian Indoor Championship Grand Prix event.

Top athletes

BADEN-BADEN, West Germany, Nov 27, (AP): Swimmer Michael Gross and tennis ace Steffi Graf have been voted West Germany's top athletes of 1988 in a poll of sports writers published today.

Marathon race

TOKYO, Nov 27, (AP): Paul Ballinger of New Zealand bested a field of 12,526 runners in freezing weather today to claim victory in the K waguchiko marathon.

Real held

MADRID, Nov 27, (Reuters): Athletic Bilbao halted a run of eight victories by Spanish League leaders Real Madrid yesterday, coming from behind three times to draw 3-3 in their First Division match.

Play abandoned

MELBOURNE, Australia, Nov 27, (Reuters): Play was abandoned on the third day of the match between Victoria and the West Indies at the Melbourne Cricket Ground today.

Itaparica Open

ITAPARICA, Brazil, Nov 27, (Reuters): Peruvian Jaime Yzaga won a crucial first-set tie-break and beat Javier Frana of Argentina 7-6 6-2 in the final of the \$305,000 Itaparica Open tennis tournament in this northeastern tourist resort yesterday.

Short tour

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Nov 27, (AP): The New Zealand Cricket Council is still considering whether England will make a short tour early next year, chairman Barry Paterson said today.

Copenhagen Open

COPENHAGEN, Denmark, Nov 27, (AP): Derrick Rostagno beat Alex Antonitsch of Austria 6-3, 6-1 in just 55 minutes today to win the \$55,000 Copenhagen Open tennis tournament.

Racing team

MILAN, Italy, Nov 27, (AP): The Italian auto racing team Coloni has signed French driver Pierre-Henri Raphanel for the 1989 World Formula One championship.

Alan Hansen

LONDON, Nov 27, (UPI): Alan Hansen, the Liverpool captain, underwent surgery Friday on the injury that has kept him out of soccer all season. According to the club, the surgery, described by manager Kenny Dalglish as 'slight', was a success and they are still optimistic he will make a full recovery.

Derek Bell

LONDON, Nov 27, (UPI): Briton Derek Bell, twice world sportscar champion, will quit rally driving after surviving this week's gruelling Lombard RAC Rally. The five-time winner of the Le Mans 24-hour race finished 29th in the rally on Thursday and he admitted it had been a struggle.

Marathon champion

FLORENCE, Italy, Nov 27, (UPI): Italy's Olympic marathon champion Gelindo Brondi says he'll be back in competition by late January. Brondi will begin the year with six weeks of cross-country, competing in the five miles race in northern Italy and the European club competition in Portugal.

Saint-Germain stretch lead

PARIS, Nov 27, (Reuters): Paris Saint-Germain settled comfortably into its place at the top of the French First Division with an easy 1-0 away win to Bordeaux yesterday.

The victory, secured with a goal by Christian Perez, gave the team trained by Yugoslav Tomislav Ivic a points tally of 43, though second-placed Auxerre are hot on the Paris squad's heels with 42 after beating Laval 1-0.

Bordeaux wilted before Paris Saint-Germain, who absorbed the lessons of Ivic's training to match impeccable defence with brilliant attacking play.

Once among the leading lights of French soccer, 12th-ranking Bordeaux are on the wane and were beaten 1-0 by Naples on Wednesday in the European Cup.

Despite valiant efforts by new

TIGANA STILL GOOD ENOUGH FOR NATIONAL TEAM, SAYS FRENCH COACH

France will qualify for World Cup: Platini

FRANCE will qualify for the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy despite a bad start to its campaign, says Michel Platini — coach of the French national soccer team.

Platini, speaking at a press conference at the Kuwait Football Association's headquarters in Udailiya, said that although his team lost to Yugoslavia last week and drew against Cyprus, he was optimistic that France would accompany Yugoslavia to the finals.

Currently

The other teams in the group are Scotland and Norway. Only two teams qualify from this group for the finals.

Yugoslavia currently heads the group with three points from two games. Scotland also have three points from two games but are second on goal average while France have three points from three games. All the teams play each other twice. So France still has five more games to play.

Platini said he believed Yugoslavia was a better team than his at the moment.

Speaking on his appointment as coach, Platini said that he had enough experience to train the French squad. He added that 15 years of international playing



Sheikh Fahd (2nd left) and Platini (3rd left) at the press conference.

experience more than overcame the handicap of not having trained to be a coach.

The former French captain, and twice European Footballer of the Year, stood by his decision to appoint Jean Tigana as captain although Tigana had announced his retirement 17 months earlier.

Platini was of the opinion that Tigana, although 33 years old, had the experience to guide the mostly young players in international matches.

"I did not pick Tigana because

of his colour. I picked him because I felt that he was still good enough to play for France," said Platini.

He admitted that some players had objected to Tigana's presence on the team because Tigana had retired when France had still needed him. But Platini felt that Tigana was now part of the team and all the players accepted him as a team member and there was no split in the squad.

Speaking on his retirement from soccer when he was still at

his best, Platini said that he quit soccer because he wanted to make way for younger players. He added that he always wanted to quit while at the top. He also wanted people to remember him at his best.

When asked to compare himself with Pele and Maradona, Platini was of the opinion that comparisons could not be drawn between them. "There is only one Pele, one Maradona and one Platini," he added.

Platini said he had been impressed by Kuwaitis' love for



Platini (left) with the Soviet captain at the start of the game.

(Photos by Amer Jadeed)

soccer. He thanked Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed, the president of the Kuwait Football Association, for the hospitality shown to him during his stay in Kuwait.

Earlier on, Sheikh Fahd expressed pleasure at having Platini in Kuwait. He said that Platini had contributed greatly to the progress of soccer. He also praised Platini's fight against drugs for which the former French captain had the Platini Foundation.

Sheikh Fahd also mentioned

that Platini had remained in contact with him during the hijacking of the Kuwait airliner Jaberiya. He added that Platini had offered to act as mediator in attempt to solve the crisis.

Platini later in the evening played for about 15 minutes for the Kuwait national team against the visiting Soviet Union national soccer team.

The match, which had been arranged to prepare Kuwait for next month's Asia Cup tournament, was a rough affair with the Soviets winning 2-0.

Zurbriggen wins opening Cup race

SCHLADMING, Austria, Nov 27, (AP): Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland won the opening men's World Cup skiing race today as he captured the super-giant competition in 1 minute, 31.65 seconds.

Zurbriggen, the defending World Cup overall champion, was last in the first group and overtook two Olympic gold medalists.

Second place went to Francis Piccard of France, who won the super-G Olympic title in Calgary earlier this year. Third was Leonard Stock of Austria, the 1980 Olympic downhill winner.

"I panicked in the starting gate and made a mistake in the middle," said Piccard. "That's where I lost the race."

Piccard's time was 1:31.77 while Stock did it in 1:32.15, down the 2,020-metre (6,628-foot) course that dropped 343 metres (1,125 feet). The track had 44 gates.

It was Zurbriggen's 32nd World Cup victory, second best on the all-time list behind Sweden's Ingemar Stenmark, who has 85.

"The first race of the season is always something special because you don't know what kind of condition you're in," Zurbriggen said.

Napoli trounce Milan

ROME, Nov 27, (Reuters): Magnificent Diego Maradona headed in a goal from more than 20 metres as Napoli humbled Italian League champions AC Milan 4-1 to crown a triumphant week of soccer today.

Milan, again without injured Dutch star Ruud Gullit, collapsed swiftly as Maradona, Brazilian Careca and defender Giovanni Francini hit home in the 42nd, 45th and 48th minutes. Pietro Paolo Viridis pulled one back with a 64th minute penalty before Careca hammered in his second in the 77th.

Showed

But the damage was done from the moment Maradona, out on his own 22 metres from the line and with goalkeeper Giovanni Galli charging out to meet him, showed the opportunism that makes the Argentine World Cup-winning captain such a sensation.

He headed the ball over Galli and as it crossed the line 80,000 Napoli fans transformed the San

Paolo stadium into a riot of streamers, klaxons and fireworks.

The victory turned the tables from last May when Milan came to San Paolo on top form, won 3-2 and snatched away Napoli's League lead and their hopes of a second successive title.

And it took Napoli's goal spree to 10 in eight days that began with a 5-3 win at Juventus and continued with a 1-0 victory over Bordeaux in the first leg of the UEFA Cup third round tie.

Napoli stay second on 11 points, two adrift of leaders Internazionale, who struggled to win 1-0 at home to lowly Cesena. Milan dropped from fourth to fifth.

Results

Ascoli	0	Pisa	1
Atalanta	0	Perugia	0
Bologna	0	Lazio	0
Florentina	0	Sampdoria	2
Verona	0	Como	0
Inter	1	Cesena	0
Juventus	1	Lecco	0
Napoli	4	AC Milan	1
Roma	1	Torino	3

Pakistan Green edge Awali

By Yakub Razzaque

BAHRAIN: For the second consecutive week, Awali were unlucky to be in the losing side after they failed to stop Pakistan Green from beating them by 9 runs in another nerve-wrecking tie in the Bahrain Cricket League on Friday.

Pakistan Green batted first and hammered a mammoth 196 runs for 5 wickets in 25 overs. Their middle order line-up held steady with fine contributions from Zaheed Miah 50, Dilawar 48 and Arshad 37. Awali took up the challenge, thanks to another fine knock by Guy Parker with 47. Imran Khan also continued his solid form with a sterling 45. In spite of some late order hitting, Awali failed to romp home by 9 runs.

Final score: Pakistan Green beat Awali by 9 runs. Pakistan Green 196 for 5 in 25 overs (Zaheed Miah 50, Dilawar 48, Arshad 37, Dave Pollitt 3 for 69). Awali 187 for 5 in 25 overs (Guy Parker 47, Imran Khan 45).

Meanwhile, Naveed starred for Bucheery with a creditable all-round display. He hit a breezy 42 and captured 4 wickets to en-

able Bucheery to beat this season's underdogs Cosmopolitan by 49 runs in another exciting encounter.

Final score: Bucheery beat Cosmopolitan by 49 runs. Bucheery 167 for 3 wickets in 25 overs (Subail 62, Naveed 42, Tariq 29). Cosmopolitan 118 for 7 wickets in 25 overs (Christi 31, Dharma 18, Naveed 4 for 23).

Other results: BSC B lost to Young Boys by 8 wickets: BSC B 73 all out in 24.1 overs (Hasmukh 19, Yunus 3 for 23, Khalid 3 for 30). Young Boys 76 for 2 in 13 overs (Asim 26 n.o., Azmat 26).

Godfather best Dilmun by 5 wickets: Godfather 109 for 5 in 20.1 overs (Khalid Sadiq 45 n.o., Khwaja Hassan 32 n.o., Johan Perreis 3 for 29). Dilmun 105 for 8 in 23 overs (Paiva 44 n.o., Sadiq Hamid 2 for 36).

Sri Lanka beat BSC A by 7 wickets: Sri Lanka 109 for 3 in 19.4 overs (Osman 58 n.o., Marius 20). BSC A 108 in 23 overs (Babloo 22 n.o., Vijay 19, Fazli 3 for 26).

Dadabhai beat Kanoo by 9 wickets: Dadabhai 73 for 1 in 9.2 overs (Jirash Singh 51 n.o., Sandeep 21 n.o.) Kanoo 72 all out.

Nice	3	Montpellier	3
Strasbourg	0	Saint-Etienne	1
Marseille	0	Sochaux	2
Laval	0	Auxerre	1
Lens	0	Toulouse	1
Nantes	3	Caen	1
Marseille	1	Lille	1

Standings

Standings (tabulated under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points)								
1st	St-Germain	20	13	4	3	29	14	43
2nd	Auxerre	20	13	3	4	29	16	42
3rd	Marseille	20	9	8	3	28	20	35
4th	Nantes	20	10	5	5	29	24	35
5th	Sochaux	20	8	7	4	24	14	34
6th	Monaco	20	8	7	5	26	19	31
7th	Lille	20	9	4	7	25	19	31
8th	Nice	20	9	4	7	25	23	31
9th	Montpellier	20	7	5	8	26	23	29
10th	Toulouse	20	7	8	5	24	22	29
11th	Caen	20	8	5	7	26	25	29
12th	Bordeaux	20	7	7	6	28	21	28
13th	Metz	19	8	3	8	22	18	27
14th	Toulon	19	5	8	6	13	14	23
15th	Racing Paris	20	5	5	10	23	28	20
16th	Caen	20	5	5	10	19	35	20
17th	Laval	20	4	6	10	17	27	18
18th	St-Etienne	20	3	5	12	14	32	14
19th	Strasbourg	20	3	3	14	19	35	12
20th	Lens	20	2	5	13	25	40	11

Results

Bordeaux	0	Saint-Germain	1
Caen	3	Monaco	2

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

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